

# 68

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## MICRO JOURNAL

**VOLUME V ISSUE XII • Devoted to the 68XX User • December 1983**  
**"Small Computers Doing Big Things"**

SERVING THE 68XX USER WORLDWIDE



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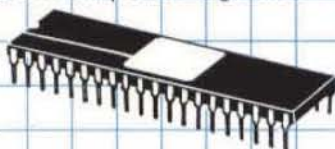
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# MICROWARE'S OS-9 IS NUMBER ONE.

## OS-9 NOW HAS THE LARGEST USER COMMUNITY

More users now run OS-9 on their 6809 computers than all other operating systems combined. This outstanding success story was no accident — it's due to OS-9's technical excellence backed up by outstanding Microware support. OS-9's Unix-type architecture and totally modular design gives your computer more power and versatility. OS-9 also gives you more possibilities for customization so you can tailor your system exactly to your needs. And aren't flexibility and performance the reasons you chose a 6809 computer to begin with?



## OS-9 HAS BEEN CHOSEN BY OVER 50 6809 SYSTEM MANUFACTURERS

OS-9 is now offered as a standard operating system by almost every 6809 system manufacturer, and has been designed into an amazing variety of dedicated systems and products including personal and business computers, process control systems, data and telecommunications systems, and more. In all, over 50 companies and organizations have

obtained OS-9 distribution licenses including such well-known names such as General Motors, NASA, Fujitsu, Western Electric, Motorola, Sykes Datatronics, Eastman Kodak, Thomson-CSF, and Tandy Corp.

## OS-9 GIVES YOU A SOFTWARE BASE TO BUILD ON

Whatever your application, OS-9 speaks your language! Microware offers BASIC09, an Extended/Structured Basic, a complete C Compiler, a full ISO Pascal Compiler, the ANSI Standard CIS Cobol Compiler, plus Relocatable Macro Assembler. These high performance programming languages are all fully implemented and deliver unmatched performance and outstanding features. Additionally, OS-9 compatible applications packages such as word processors, screen editors, spreadsheets, business software, and utilities are offered by a rapidly growing number of third-party software houses.

## PLUS OUTSTANDING MICROWARE SUPPORT: WE KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU

Even when you have the best software and documentation, there can be times when you need questions answered. That's why Microware is committed to giving OS-9 users the best possible **personalized** service. Here are some

of the ways we deliver solid support:

- A Software Support Hotline for direct access to our technical staff
- "Pipelines", our free quarterly newsletter
- OS-9 User Seminars, the annual OS-9 community gathering
- a liberal update policy for new releases

Microware does business on a person-to-person basis. When you call you'll find yourself speaking with someone who's both knowledgeable and genuinely interested in helping.

## YOU CAN COUNT ON OS-9 NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

Microware is not standing still — we're firmly committed to continuing support for the 6809 and we will continue to introduce exciting new software products for the 6809. We will soon announce OS-9/68000 and programming languages for the 68000 which will be upward compatible with 6809 versions, so if and when you are ready for the 68000 your OS-9 software can go with you.



**MICROWARE.**

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# OS-9: BETTER BY DESIGN

# '68'

# MICRO JOURNAL

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##### FOREIGN

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#### Items Submitted for Publication

Articles submitted for publication should be accompanied by the authors full name, address, date and telephone number. It is preferred that articles be submitted on either 5 or 8 inch diskette in TSC Editor format or STYLO format. All diskettes will be returned.

The following TSC Text Processor commands ONLY should be used (due to our proportional processor): .sp space, .pp paragraph, .fi fill and .nf no fill. Also please do not format within the text with multiple spaces. The rest we will enter at time of editing.

STYLO commands are all acceptable except the .pg page command, we print edited text files in continuous text.

All articles submitted on diskettes should be in TSC FLEX" format, either FLEX2 6800, or FLEX9 6809 any version.

If articles are submitted on paper they should be on white 8X11 bond or better grade paper. No hand written articles (hand written or drawn art accepted). All paper submitted articles will be photo reproduced. This requires that they be typed or produced with a dark ribbon (no blue), single spaced and type font no smaller than 'elite' or 12 pitch. Typed text should be approximately 7 inches wide (will be reduced to column width of 3 1/2 inches). **Please use a dark ribbon!**

All letters to the editor should also comply with the above and bear a signature. Letters of 'gripes' as well as 'praise' are solicited. We attempt to publish all letters to the editor verbatim, however, we reserve the right to reject any submission for lack of 'good taste'. We reserve the right to define what constitutes 'good taste'.

Advertising: Commercial advertisers please contact the 68 Micro Journal advertising department for current rate sheet and requirements.

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#43 2 port serial, RS232 \$128.43

#46 8 port serial, RS232 \$318.46

#42 2 port parallel \$88.42

#45 8 port parallel \$198.45

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#68 DMA (featured in all systems above) \$568.68

#28 dbl. dens. programmed I/O (5" drives only) \$298.28

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Cable sets: 8" with Back Panel connector \$29.25

for two 8" external drives \$44.26

for two 5" drives \$34.96

**SOFTWARE:** GIMIX exclusive versions of OS-9/GIMIX I, II, III & FLEX are for GIMIX hardware only. All versions of OS-9 require the #68 controller.

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#91: Includes two 19MB drives, interface and Software \$5289.91

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# Microware presents 4 new OS-9 software packages.

## 1 LEVEL II PRINT SPOOLING SYSTEM

This versatile package gives your OS-9 Level Two System a complete print spooling management capability for time-sharing applications. Features of the spooling system are:

- Handles up to seven independent spooling devices and queues with "print on first available device" feature.
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- Multiple listing copy option.
- Complete forms change capability for each job and device.
- Prints formatted or unformatted listings.
- Status command displays print queues and status.
- User can kill or change priority of queued jobs.

Available only for OS-9 Level Two Systems.

**Suggested List Price: \$150.00 Manual Only: \$15.00**

## 2 RMA RELOCATABLE MACRO ASSEMBLER

At last — a full feature relocatable macro assembler and linkage editor for OS-9. RMA permits sections of assembly language programs to be independently assembled to "relocatable object files". The linkage editor takes any number of program sections and/or library sections and combines them into a single executable OS-9 memory module. Global data (including indexed and direct addressing modes) and program references are automatically resolved in the process. The macro facility permits commonly used statement sequences to be defined, then used within the program with appropriate parameter substitution. RMA also supports conditional assembly and library source files.

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## 3 OS-9 FILE HANDLER TOOLBOX

Introducing a special toolbox for OS-9 users who do a lot of file manipulation! A collection of 12 useful OS-9 command

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- D** — unformatted directory listing with "wild card" matching
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- Expand** — restores a "compressed" file to the original state.
- Split** — breaks a file into smaller files.
- Space** — indents lines with optional spacing between lines.
- Code** — decodes any key on a keyboard to hex.
- Qsort** — quick sort for small files, directories, etc.
- Pr** — versatile formatted file printing utility.
- Tr** — transliterates text pattern to substitution pattern.
- Grep** — searches file for a pattern and prints matching lines.
- Xmode** — same "lmode" except changes are made to the device descriptor.
- Count** — counts words, lines, or characters within a text file.

**Suggested List Price \$85.00**

## 4 ENTERTAINMENT PACK I

A collection of games and other interesting programs that are not only entertaining but serve as good instructional examples of Basic09 programming techniques. All programs include complete Basic09 source files and can be easily edited to run on standard alphanumeric or graphics terminals.

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# FLEX™ USER NOTES THE 6800-6809 BOOK

By: Ronald W. Anderson  
As published in 68 MICRO JOURNAL™

The publishers of 68 MICRO JOURNAL are proud to announce the publication of Ron Anderson's **FLEX USER NOTES**, in book form. This popular monthly column has been a regular feature in 68 MICRO JOURNAL SINCE 1979. It has earned the respect of thousands of 68 MICRO JOURNAL readers over the years. In fact, Ron's column has been described as the 'Bible' for 68XX users, by some of the world's leading microprocessor professionals. Now all his columns are being published, in whole, as the most needed and popular 68XX book available. Over the years Ron's column has been one of the most popular in 68 MICRO JOURNAL. And of course 68 MICRO JOURNAL is the most popular 68XX magazine published.

As a **SPECIAL BONUS** all the source listing in the book will be available on disk for the low price of: FLEX™ format only — 5" \$12.95 — 8" \$16.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling, if ordered with the book. If ordered separately the price of the disks will be: 5" \$17.95 — 8" \$19.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

Listed below are a few of the **TEXT** files included in the book and on diskette.

All **TEXT** files in the book are on the disks.

LOGO.C1  
MEMOVE.C1  
DUMP.C1  
SUBTEST.C1  
TERMEM.C2  
M.C2  
PRINT.C3  
MODEM.C2  
SCIPKG.C1  
U.C4  
PRINT.C4  
SET.C5  
SETBAS1.C5

File load program to offset memory — ASM PIC  
Memory move program — ASM PIC  
Printer dump program — uses LOGO — ASM PIC  
Simulation of 6800 code to 6809, show differences — ASM  
Modem input to disk (or other port input to disk) — ASM  
Output a file to modem (or another port) — ASM  
Parallel (enhanced) printer driver — ASM  
TTL output to CRT and modem (or other port) — ASM  
Scientific math routines — PASCAL  
Mini-monitor, disk resident, many useful functions — ASM  
Parallel printer driver, without PFLAG — ASM  
Set printer modes — ASM  
Set printer modes — A-BASIC  
(And many more)

\*\*Over 30 **TEXT** files included in ASM (assembler) — PASCAL — PIC (position independent code) TSC BASIC-C, etc.

NOTE: .C1, .C2, etc. = Chapter 1, Chapter 2, etc.

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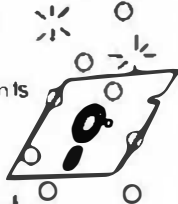
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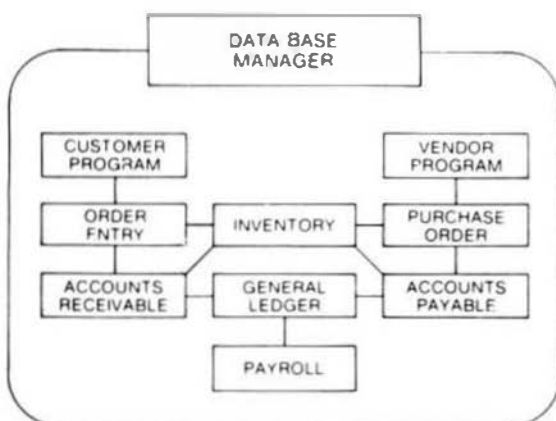
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# Flex User Notes

Ronald W. Anderson  
3540 Sturbridge Court  
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## Taming the CT-82XX

If you have a CT-82, CT-8212, or CT-8209 terminal, you have a device with a nice green screen and lots of smart features. You also have one "feature" that is absolutely useless. There is a key on your terminal called a SHIFT LOCK. Now most terminals have what they call a CAPS LOCK. The CAPS LOCK simply causes all lower case letters to become upper case, so you can emulate an old teletype, or write a program in a language that requires upper case characters without constantly going for the shift key. Of course without caps lock you have to release the shift key for numbers and punctuation, and depress it for letters, and therein lies the problem with a SHIFT LOCK function.

Some of the software suppliers of editors have come to the rescue with a built in software CAPS LOCK. You know, if you have a CT-82XX that Stylo has such a feature. I recently received a copy of Dynastar for test and review, and I noticed that it doesn't have this feature, and so is rather hard to use with a CT-82XX. It occurs to me that there might be some other screen editors without this feature, that might benefit from some help too, so I set out to write an INCHNE (input character with no echo) routine to replace the one in SBUG-E.

It turns out that all the screen oriented editors use INCHNE so that they don't echo the control characters that you must type while editing text. I found that all calls to this routine are done by an indirect jump through the location \$D3E5. The listing of CAPS shown here is the result of my effort, and I guarantee it will work with any version of FLEX9 except the very early original FLEX09, which was a reassembly of the old 6800 FLEX, and was superseded within about 6 months. Any version of FLEX newer than about Feb. 1980 will have this jump vector.

What the routine does is to set up a CAPS FLAG, which initially is cleared so the routine doesn't modify characters from the terminal. When the routine is called, it looks for a control underline (\$1F) character, and when one is detected it "toggles" the CAPS FLAG. When the CAPS FLAG is ON, all input characters are tested to see if they are within the range of the values of a to z and if they are, they are modified to be A to Z, the upper case versions. The control underline is not passed through to the computer, so that it is lost as a possible control code to the software being run. This character could be changed to be any unused code for special applications. CAPS is assembled and then installed either by use of the GET CAPS.BIN command, or by appending it to the editor or other software so it is loaded with the software.

I decided to get a bit more general about it and to modify the INCH (with echo) routine also. CAPSALL is a listing of that attempt. I found to my chagrin that FLEX doesn't use the INCH vector it has set up (at least in General FLEX), at \$D3FB. That vector jumps to location \$D383 which does an indirect jump to the location whose address is found at \$D385, the SBUG-E entry point. Unfortunately in FLEX (GIMIX DMA VERSION) at \$CD09, the GETCHR routine, does a jump to \$D383, so it is the address at \$D385 that must be modified to cause a jump to the substitute INCH. Unfortunately the jump is indirect, so CAPSALL contains a FDB INCH, and the address of that FDB (called INCHV) is what is overlaid at \$D385. Your version of FLEX may not be the same, and this more general version that I call CAPSALL may not work without a slight modification.

I did some research on various FLEX versions, and found that the location for the overlay is always within a few bytes of \$D380, and you can look with the monitor for the double byte \$F804. This is the location that must be overlaid with the INCHV. Incidentally, all the CC FLEX versions are derived from general FLEX, and they apparently do all use the vector at \$D3FB. The CC versions, obviously don't have SBUG-E so the eventual jump is NOT to \$F804, but to some other location. You would only be interested in patching CC FLEX if you have an external CT-82XX attached to it anyway.

I put the new input routines at \$BE00, and fixed memend to point at \$BDFF so the routines won't get wiped out by any standard software that honors memend. They seem to work quite well. I can toggle CAPS LOCK off and on even while in the FLEX command mode with the ++ prompt present. FLEX ignores control characters, but all that is passed to it is a null (\$00) just to be safe. Operation of Dynastar went from nearly impossible for writing Pascal programs to being just like the operation with a different terminal or with Stylo. Stylo uses the control up-arrow to toggle its caps lock, but that conflicts with a necessary control character in another editor that I have, so I chose control underline.

It occurs to me that this sort of an input "filter" could be extended to detect other control characters and a dumb terminal could be made to look rather smart by putting the software in the computer rather than the terminal. I'd be interested to hear about anyone carrying this idea further.

## 68000 News

I've received a copy of a "press release" from TSC indicating that they have what looks like our familiar Extended BASIC with some enhancements, available in a 68000 version to run under the 68000 UNIX operating systems. They also announce a version of their pre-compiler for this BASIC. The description sounds just like 6809 Extended BASIC complete with sequential and random files, and virtual arrays. They have the error trapping facilities, ERR and ERL to report error numbers and lines, and the 16.8 digit arithmetic. I don't want to imply that this is a "straight" translation. There are many enhancements such as an "approximately equal" test for floating point numbers.

I recently mentioned being asked if anyone was doing something about either Hardware or Software for the 68000. I can tell you that I have it on very good authority that GIMIX is working on a SS-50 bus version of a 68000 based system. I don't have a completion date to report, but it could well be before you read this.

## EDITORIAL

Here we go again. I've been looking at the computer book section of a couple of bookstores, local and not so local, and I have some observations. There are quite a few feet of shelves full of "computer books", among which are quite a few well written books on such subjects as Pascal or "C" programming. These, however are getting to be hard to find among the titles such as "Wordstar Simplified", "Wordstar made easy", "Understanding CP/M", "Programs in Color Computer Extended BASIC", "How to use Visicalc", and on and on seemingly endlessly with books EXPLAINING WHAT SHOULD BE COVERED THOROUGHLY AND UNDERSTANDABLY IN THE MANUALS FOR THE VARIOUS SOFTWARE PRODUCTS.

The availability of so many books is a sad commentary on the "understandability factor" of much of the documentation that comes with software that is available today. These books (not necessarily actual titles) all sell for \$15 to \$20. A careful search in the local Dalton Booksellers, showed not a single book on "C" programming. There were Pascal programming books in abundance, perhaps reflecting the newness of "C". These comments apply to MUCH of what is available today, not ALL. I think in general we SS-50 bus users are lucky. Our software suppliers seem to be doing a better job than software suppliers in general.

What I was looking for, was a good textbook on computer theory. I found one in the area of "Interactive Compiler and Interpreter Design". Close to what I was looking for... How much? \$48!!! It seemed that all the textbook variety (hard cover only) ran from \$40 to \$50! While the Interactive Compiler Design was not quite what I was looking for, I'd be willing to part with \$20 for it, but \$48 seems a bit steep.

I can see it coming now. Thirty-five publishers will be bending my ear about the high cost of producing a book and how such a book has a limited market so that they have to charge that much in order to break even. It seems to me that in the age of computers, if a publisher feels the market will be limited, he doesn't need to publish a book in hardcover and typeset. What's wrong with a photo reproduced daisy wheel printout in softcover to keep the costs down? A book of this type is primarily for reference and study, and not for "show". It doesn't have to look pretty on the shelf in my library. Still, that book did say something about books on compiler design not having to be unintelligible to



someone without a degree in computer science.... Maybe I can afford it after all. Better yet, maybe I can get the company to buy it! (It did.)

#### WHY ME

I seem to have some strange sort of knack for finding bugs in software. I don't necessarily mean for fixing bugs, but for running across them. Way back when FLEX2 came along, TSC, after some delay, finally supplied a rework of Uiterwyk's BASIC for it. Of course I had a "backlog" of old programs in BASIC, and I tried running them. About the third program, I had a problem. After some experimenting I found that the RESTORE statement didn't work with a DATA statement. Perhaps someone thought that with disk files no one would use DATA statements any longer. Of course my old game program had one, and it bombed. TSC was quick to provide a new copy without that problem, as have most all of the software suppliers in general.

Somewhere around what must be pushing a year ago now, I received a new compiler to evaluate. To the chagrin of the supplier (a VERY conscientious one), I continued to find peculiarities for several months and versions as I got into applications and translating some older programs from Pascal. The supplier indicated that he had been selling the product for over a year, and that I was the ONLY user reporting bugs. We wondered together whether the others just didn't happen to be using the features that had the bugs, or didn't bother reporting them. I (and all the other owners of the compiler) received very prompt patches where possible and new versions when a patch wasn't feasible. A couple months ago (about 6 by the time you read this) I received a "final release" version with a very large and well done manual. I have found no bugs since. The supplier was Windrush, and the product PL9.

I could mention several other cases of immediate finding of bugs in new software. In nearly every case, the response from the supplier has been one of surprise and immediate correction. The moral of the story is that if you do find a bug you should report it immediately. You will be HELPING the supplier by pointing out the problem so it can be fixed before he sells another 50 copies and then has to update those additional 50 owners of the software.

I've said it before, but it bears repeating, that you should be sure you have found a bug, and that you are not misinterpreting the instructions. A supplier will pay attention if you can reduce the program that shows up the bug to its simplest form. A test program of a dozen lines that shows up a bug is much more valued by the supplier than 10 pages with a vague description of the problem.

#### OmegaSoft

In the September '83 issue of this magazine, Don Williams published a letter from me concerning an oversight on my part. I had been rather wrapped up in comparisons of various compilers, and had done a test on several compilers to look at the code they generated for some assignment statements involving simple variables and array elements. OmegaSoft didn't fare so well against a couple of the newer compilers. Bob Reimiller of OmegaSoft phoned me to tell me that I must have used his version 1 of Pascal, and that the newer version was much more efficient in the area of code generation. The comparisons in question were in the July issue of '68'. I've rerun the tests. If you have the July issue handy, refer to page 12. In the second column, just above the result table, I had given the byte count for the compiler in the last and most complex expression. OmegaSoft is shown as generating 62 bytes. Version 2.1 generated 39 in my test, right in there with the best. The table shows OmegaSoft as having generated 376 bytes for the whole set of assignments. The newer version generated 220 bytes, and OmegaSoft Pascal since version 2.0 has had BYTE variables, which were used in the test.

Since that issue I have done some timing comparisons using the BYTE magazine Sieve of Erastosthenes Benchmark program. I had reported OmegaSoft Pascal as running that sieve in 20 seconds on a 2 MHz system. My tests with version 2.1 indicate the time to be 14 seconds. Bob Reimiller reports results more on the order of 12 seconds. Perhaps some rearrangement of the variable declarations would put the most referenced ones where the referencing instructions would be shorter, and I don't doubt Bob's results. The authors of the article in BYTE did allow taking advantage of specific features of a compiler including order of declaration of variables, declaring them local or global, etc.

#### Introl

The other day I received a nice letter from Introl Corp. In that July test report, I had mentioned having used Introl "C" Integer only version on a friend's system to run the test. I reported that short integer and Integer were the same in Introl "C". I didn't mention that the K&R specification says that is OK. What I didn't see at the time was that I could just as well have used variables of type char for the cases in which bytes would be adequate. I've rerun the tests for that also. The total byte count using integers and chars for the 16 and 8 bit data types respectively, yielded a byte count of 227 rather than the 261 indicated in the July article.

Introl's president also pointed out to me that I had coded the sieve benchmark test algorithm incorrectly in my review of Whimsical in the September issue. One look was all it took to convince me of the truth of that. I will have to plead a "stupidity attack" here, as I did in my reply to Introl. Of course the array must be reinitialized for each of the ten iterations. It was initialized only the first iteration in my coding. I've re-coded the test and rerun it. The results were 11.5 seconds for ten iterations on a 2 MHz system. The listing is included here. Obviously, I have to retract my statement that these are the fastest results to date with any compiler I have tested. The correct algorithm yields time that puts the execution time in line with PL9's and just below the Windrush, Dyna-C, and Introl "C" compilers.

I'm sorry for the inaccuracies. I've written about the problems with the previous reports, but it seems that I didn't do a whole lot better with my tests. Still, though, I could make the point that we have five compilers that run the Sieve Benchmark in from 10 to 11.5 seconds. Three of those have floating point capability and two have Integer only. Three of them are "C" compilers, which must say something for the language and the implementation available.

#### PROCESSORS

I also received a letter recently from Gary Bergstrom in Ohio. He noted my comments about our 2 MHz 6809 being compared to a 4 or 6 MHz Z-80. I'll quote his letter here "Be careful about clock speed discussions. I believe a 6 MHz Z-80 can use slower memory than a 2 MHz 6809 (8 MHz crystal). An 8 MHz Z-80 requires slightly faster memory than a 2 MHz 6809. Zilog and Intel talk crystal frequency and Motorola and the 6502 crowd talk crystal frequency / 4. Memory access (or bus bandwidth) is a fair comparison (or at least fairer). Compare 4 MHz Z-80's with 1 MHz 6809's and 2 MHz 6809's to 6 or 8 MHz Z-80's.. and remember, I like the 6809's but fair is fair."

Gary makes a very good point. Anyone else have any comments? I know that the basic "machine cycle" for the 6809 takes place at 1/4 of the crystal frequency. Someone write and tell us if this is also true for the Z-80. Actually since that column, I have reported some more current benchmark timings and added some late compiler implementations, and the results are still very favorable to the 6809.

Well, I'm sorry for the rather fragmented column this time. There were just a lot of little things to report, and I had to give reply time to those who were kind enough to write and set me straight where I had made some errors.

#### 2 PRIME BENCHMARK PROGRAM IN WHIMSICAL

```
BEGIN
  INTEGER SIZE=8190;

  BOOLEAN ARRAY FLAG [SIZE];
  SMALLINT L;
  INTEGER I, J, K, COUNT;

  FOR L := 0 TO 9 DO
  BEGIN
    FOR I := 0 TO SIZE DO FLAG[I] := TRUE; 3 INITIALIZE ARRAY
    COUNT := 0;
    FOR J := 0 TO SIZE DO
    BEGIN
      IF FLAG [I] THEN
```

```

BEGIN
  J := 1;
  K := 1;
  WHILE K <= SIZE DO
    BEGIN
      FLAG[K] := FALSE;
      K := K+1;
    END;
  COUNT := COUNT+1;
END;
END;
WRITE CHR(900),CHR(500);
WRITE COUNT,' PAGES';
END;
END.

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED  
LAST ASSEMBLED ADDRESS: 8E24

\* CAPS LOCK FILTERED INCHME ROUTINE FOR DYNASTAR  
\* THIS ROUTINE FILTERS THE CHARACTER INPUT STREAM  
\* FOR DYNASTAR, WHICH USES THE INPUT CHARACTER  
\* WITHOUT ECHO ROUTINE OF FLEX, WHOSE ADDRESS IS AT  
\* 8D3E5.  
\*  
\* IF THE CAPS FLAG IS NON ZERO, IT SUBTRACTS #20  
\* FROM THE ASCII CHARACTERS IN THE RANGE a-z TO MAKE  
\* THEM A-Z. IT DOES NOT CHANGE ANY OTHER CHARACTERS SO  
\* IT IS A TRUE CAPS LOCK AND NOT A SHIFT LOCK LIKE THE  
\* KEY ON THE CT-821X TERMINALS.  
\*  
\* THIS PROGRAM IS TO BE ASSEMBLED AND APPENDED TO DS.CAD  
\* SO THAT IT LOADS WITH DS.  
\*  
\* THE CAPS FLAG IS INITIALIZED TO OFF, AND IT IS TOGGLED  
\* WITH A "CONTROL UNDERLINE (^)" CHARACTER, WHICH THIS  
\* ROUTINE FILTERS OUT SO IT CAN'T BE USED IN A MACRO  
\* DEFINITION WITHIN DYNASTAR.

```

E004 ACIA EQU 8E004
CC2B MEMEND EQU 8CC2B

* ASSUME INITIALIZED BY MONITOR

CC2B ORG MEMEND FILL MEMEND
CC2B B0FF FDB #B0FF

D3E5 ORG 8D3E5 FILL THE INPUT CHARACTER VECTOR
D3E5 B000 FDB INCHME

B000 ORG 8B000
B000 B6 E004 INCHME LDA ACIA
B003 44 LSRA
B004 24 FA BCC INCHME WAIT FOR A CHARACTER
B006 B6 E005 LDA ACIA+1 GET CHARACTER
B009 B4 7F ANDA #07F REMOVE PARITY
B00B B1 1F CMPA #01F CONTROL UNDERLINE (SAME AS PIE)
B00D 26 05 BNE CONTIN IF NOT TOGGLE CHARACTER
B00F 73 BE24 COM CAPS TOGGLE THE FLAG
B012 4F CLRA DON'T PASS CONTROL CHARACTER TO EDITOR
B013 39 RTS
B014 7D BE24 CONTIN TST CAPS IS FLAG ON?
B017 27 04 BEQ CONT2 DONE IF IT IS OFF
B019 B1 61 CMPA #1 ELSE SEE IF CHARACTER IS LOWER CASE
B01D 25 06 BLO CONT2 DONE IF TOO SMALL
B01B B1 7A CMPA #1 ELSE SEE IF TOO LARGE
B01F 22 02 BNE CONT2 DONE IF TOO LARGE
B021 B4 DF ANDA #0DF ELSE MAKE IT UPPER CASE
B023 39 CONT2 RTS
B024 00 CAPS FCB 0
END

```

\* CAPS LOCK FILTERED INCHME AND INCH ROUTINES  
\* THIS ROUTINE FILTERS THE CHARACTER INPUT STREAM  
\* WHICH USES THE INPUT CHARACTER  
\* WITHOUT ECHO ROUTINE OF FLEX, WHOSE ADDRESS IS AT  
\* 8D3E5 AND THE INCH WITH ECHO AT 8D3F2.  
\*  
\* IF THE CAPS FLAG IS NON ZERO, IT SUBTRACTS #20

\* FROM THE ASCII CHARACTERS IN THE RANGE a-z TO MAKE  
\* THEM A-Z. IT DOES NOT CHANGE ANY OTHER CHARACTERS SO  
\* IT IS A TRUE CAPS LOCK AND NOT A SHIFT LOCK LIKE THE  
\* KEY ON THE CT-821X TERMINALS.  
\*  
\* THE CAPS FLAG IS INITIALIZED TO OFF, AND IT IS TOGGLED  
\* WITH A "CONTROL UNDERLINE (^)" CHARACTER, WHICH THIS  
\* ROUTINE FILTERS OUT SO IT CAN'T BE USED BY SOFTWARE.  
\*  
\* ASSUME INITIALIZED BY MONITOR  
\*  
\* NOTE THE FOLLOWING ORG SHOULD BE SUCH THAT THE FDB  
\* OVERLAYS  
\* THE HEX VALUE F006 IN SOME CODE THAT DOES A JMP(F006).  
\* F006 IS THE ADDRESS FOR AN INDIRECT JUMP  
\* TO SUB-E ROUTINE INCHME, INPUT WITH ECHO.  
\*  
\* THIS LOCATION HAS BEEN FOUND TO VARY BY A FEW BYTES AROUND  
\* THE VICINITY OF 8D380. YOU WILL HAVE TO DO A MEMORY DUMP OF  
\* THAT AREA AND DETERMINE THE ADDRESS WHERE F006 IS FOUND

```

D3E5 ORG 8D3E5 THIS IS WHERE F006 IS IN MY VERSION OF FLEX
D3E5 B000 FDB INCHME

B000 ORG 8B000
B000 B6 E004 INCHME LDA ACIA
B003 44 LSRA
B004 24 FA BCC INCHME WAIT FOR A CHARACTER
B006 B6 E005 LDA ACIA+1 GET CHARACTER
B009 B4 7F ANDA #07F REMOVE PARITY
B00B B1 1F CMPA #01F CONTROL UNDERLINE (SAME AS PIE)
B00D 26 05 BNE CONTIN IF NOT TOGGLE CHARACTER
B00F 73 BE24 COM CAPS TOGGLE THE FLAG
B012 4F CLRA DON'T PASS CONTROL CHARACTER TO EDITOR
B013 39 RTS
B014 7D BE24 CONTIN TST CAPS IS FLAG ON?
B017 27 04 BEQ CONT2 DONE IF IT IS OFF
B019 B1 61 CMPA #1 ELSE SEE IF CHARACTER IS LOWER CASE
B01D 25 06 BLO CONT2 DONE IF TOO SMALL
B01B B1 7A CMPA #1 ELSE SEE IF TOO LARGE
B01F 22 02 BNE CONT2 DONE IF TOO LARGE
B021 B4 DF ANDA #0DF ELSE MAKE IT UPPER CASE
B023 39 CONT2 RTS
B024 00 CAPS FCB 0
B025 BE27 INCHME FDB INCH
B027 B0 B7 INCH PSR INCHME
B029 34 02 PSWS A

* ADDRESS 8D3F9 SHOULD CONTAIN THE ADDRESS OF A SUBROUTINE
* THAT DOES A JMP (F006)

B02B AB 9F B3F9 JSR (F03F9)
B02F 35 02 PULS A
B031 39 RTS
END

```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

## OS9 USER NOTES

By: Peter Dibble  
517 Goler House  
Rochester, NY 14620

As I was working away, distracted by the problem of choosing a topic for this month's column, I deleted a bunch of files by mistake. Worse, I didn't notice that I had done myself in until minutes later -- too late to get the files back. This event made the choice of a subject for this month substantially easier. The first topic for this month is file security.

Users on OS-9 are known by a number. If you use OS-9 as it came off the distribution disk you



will be the only user and have the user number 0. User 0 is special: UNIX users would call him the superuser. The superuser has special privileges that enable him to circumvent the protection of files. All other users, and, to some extent the superuser, are separated from disk files by OS-9's file protection scheme.

If you use the DIR command with the "E" option:  
OS9: DIR E you will get a list of the files in your current working directory with a lot of information about each file:

```

directory of . 19:50:32
Owner Last modified attributes sector bytcount
name -----
-----
1 83/05/10 2234 -----wr C0 4141
Column4
1 83/09/11 2351 -s--r-wr AF 458D
Column8
1 83/06/11 1630 -----r B4 6081
Column5
0 83/09/14 2036 d-ewrewr BD 3EO
PROGRAMS
1 83/08/28 1614 ----r-wr 245 BE9
Dictionary

```

The information in this display that relates to a file's protection are its owner and attributes. All the files in this directory, except the file (a directory file) called PROGRAMS, belong to user number 1. The type of protection given to a file depends on the contents of the attributes field.

The first position in the attributes field is for the directory attribute. Directory files have several special characteristics, the one relating to protection is that they can't be deleted with the DEL command.

The second position in the attribute field is the sharable attribute. If there is an "s" in this position, the file can only be accessed by one process at a time.

The next six positions in the attribute field are two groups of three attributes each: public execute, write and read, and private execute write and read. If a public attribute is on (indicated by a letter instead of dash in that position) then any user can do that class of operations. If a private attribute is on, the owner of the file can do that class of operation.

The file called Column4 has typical protection. User 1, who is the owner of the file, can read or write it, and nobody else can do anything to it except observe that it is there.

Column8 is protected such that any user can read the file, but only user 1 can write to it. It also has the non-sharable attribute which protects it against being accessed by more than one user at a time. The non-sharable attribute prevents things from getting confusing when user 1 is updating the file and some other user is reading it, by preventing that situation from coming about. Whoever gets to the file first has exclusive access to it until he closes it. If several users want to read a file at the same time there is usually no reason not to let them do so, problems start to appear when a user wants to write to the file while other access it, and things get really sticky if several users want to update the file at the same time. The non-sharable attribute is most important when several users want write to a file concurrently.

The protection of column5 demonstrates one of the more useful applications of file protection in a

single user system. It is impossible for anyone, even the owner of the file, to write to it without first changing its attributes. Since the class of operations controlled by write protection includes writing, renaming, and deleting, a file which is write protected can't be deleted by mistake. If I had write protected my files I wouldn't have been able to delete them without thinking about it.

It would appear to be impossible to ever delete a write protected file, but the owner of the file can use the attr command to change the attributes. The procedure for deleting a write protected file is: use the attr command to remove the write protection:

OS9: attr column5 w Then delete the file with the normal del command.

None of the data files in this directory have the execute attribute. They are all text files and manifestly not executable. OS-9 will only load a file for execution if it has the executable attribute. The separation of the execute attribute from the read attribute makes it possible to create an execute-only file. It would be difficult for someone to copy, dump, or disassemble an execute-only file. The execute-only attribute is a useful trick for protecting proprietary software.

A particularly sneaky problem is related to the execute attribute. Merging executable files together to form a file with all the modules used by some program, or to allow a set of popular utilities to be loaded compactly under Level Two, will create a file which doesn't have the execute attribute. OS-9 won't let you execute or load the resulting file. It gives an error 214, "NO PERMISSION." The fix for this problem is to use the ATTR command to give the file the executable attribute.

If you don't intend to have more than one user on your computer there is no reason for you to worry about user numbers. If you want to share your computer with other people -- either taking turns using the computer or using OS-9 as a multi-user operating system -- it is a good idea to have a separate user number for each person who uses the computer. The best way to set your user number is to start the TSMON process in the startup file. The last line in the startup file should be something like:

TSMON /TERM TSMON will just sit there until you type a carriage return. This may give you the impression that something is wrong with the computer unless you are ready for this stolid lack of activity. To comfort myself I include the line:

ECHO Press carriage return to initiate logon>/TERM

before the TSMON command in the startup file. It leaves directions on the screen after I boot the system. If you are lucky enough to own a system large enough to support three terminals, the following sequence of commands could be included in the startup file to get everything going:

```

Echo Press carriage return to initiate logon
>/TERM
Echo Press carriage return to initiate logon
>/IT1
Echo Press carriage return to initiate logon
>/IT2
TSMON /IT1&
TSMON /IT2&
TSMON /TERM

```

It is important to start the last TSMON as a foreground task (no &).

The main business of TSMON is done by the LOGIN command. The LOGIN command uses files called password and motd which must be in the SYS directory

on the same disk the default data directory is on (normally /00). The password file includes the user-name, user-number, and, optionally, a password for each user authorized to use the computer. It also includes a lot of information used to set up the environment for each user. The full contents of each line in the password file are:

- User Name
- Password
- User Number
- Initial priority
- Initial execution directory (usually .)
- Initial data directory (usually .)
- Initial program to execute (usually "shell")

The login command prompts for a user-name, and, if that user has a password in the password file, for a password. If the user-name isn't in the password file, or the password isn't correct, LOGIN announces the mistake and prompts for user name again.

The login command protects each user number from unauthorized use by insisting on getting a good user-name/password match before letting someone use a user-number. Many different users can share a user-number, allowing them to share files in a group, but each user-name can only be associated with one user number.

If you find a need to change your user number in the middle of a session with your computer you may be able to do it with the LOGIN command. The LOGIN command can only be used if your default data directory is on the same disk the password file is on. The LOGIN command needs to read the password file. If you protect the password file against public read to keep everyone from browsing through the passwords, nobody but the superuser can use the LOGIN command.

The motd file contains the "message of the day." If there is any text in motd it will be displayed on the screen each time anyone logs on. It can be used to display a general greeting, or to give system status information of general interest; e.g., "We are running a new release of Pascal today."

Some tricks can be done with the "Initial program" in the password file. It is possible to specify not only the initial program, but also a parameter string for it. This opens up extensive possibilities. Most operating systems allow a user to have the commands in a file (sometimes called a user profile or a login command file) executed every time he logs on. If you are willing to accept some limitations, the initial command can be used to do much more than start a shell for you when you log on.

The simplest possible entry in the password file might go something like:

```
myname,,3,100,.,.,shell
```

which would set up a user called myname. Myname would have a user number of 3, and would be started with a priority of 100. His data and execution directories would be standard -- for most systems /D0 and /D0/CNDS. Whenever myname logs in a shell will be started for him.

A somewhat more demanding user can make the password file do much more for him. The following line in the password file sets up a user with a password of xyzzy, gives him non-standard data and execution directories, and runs FREE and MFREE for him before leaving him running a shell:

```
hlsname,xyzzy,2,150,/D0/HISDIR,/D0/BASICX,  
shell free;mfree;ex shell
```

I had to split the line after the execution directory in order to fit it into a column. In the password file it must all be on one line. The important thing is that the sequence of commands the

user wants executed must start with the name of the program that will interpret the rest of the line. If that program is the shell, the last command in that shell's parameter string must be an ex for whatever command you want to start the user with.

If you want to start a user with a particularly long script of commands, perhaps enough commands to hold him for an entire session, use a shell command file. The trick is to have the initial command be "shell" with a file name as the parameter. If the file isn't in the default data directory its full path-name must be specified. A sample password file entry might go like:

```
hername,wltrs,5,130,.,.,shell her.cmd.file ; ex  
shell
```

In this case the file "her.cmd.file" must be in the system default data directory. The command file invoked at login is just like any other shell command file. The important restriction to remember is that the shell command file is run by a different shell from the one that the user will be using when the command file is finished. If you change the directories in the command file, those changes will effect only the shell running the commands, not the shell that will be running after the command file is done.

### The "Suspend State"

Microware has added a nifty performance enhancement to the latest version of OS-9. They discovered that device drivers were spending a significant amount of time using the F\$SEND service request (SR) to communicate between the interrupt service routine for the port and the rest of the device driver. In order to understand why the send was done you need some background in the way the OS-9 SCF device drivers work. The simplest way to write a device driver is to read and write to the port directly from the read and write entries of the driver, but this requires that the driver go into a wait loop while the interface chip is performing the operation. A wait loop isn't a bad thing if the processor has nothing to do until the I/O is complete, but, in an environment like OS-9, there are likely to be several tasks waiting to get done. The "right" way to write a device driver under OS-9 is to have the actual I/O done by an interrupt service routine, and have the read and write entries of the device driver share queues with the interrupt routine.

A character to be written goes to the write entry of the device driver which puts the character into the write queue if there is space for it, or goes to sleep if there isn't. The interface chip should be set to generate an interrupt whenever it is ready to write another character. The interrupt service routine will be started every time an interrupt is received from the port it is responsible for. If the interrupt was an output interrupt, the interrupt service routine will take a character out of the output queue and send it to the port. If the device driver is sleeping, waiting for an empty slot in the queue to appear, the interrupt service routine should send it a wakeup signal.

The procedure for reading a character is roughly the reverse of that for writing. The queue for input goes from the interrupt routine to the read entry and the device driver sleeps if a read is done when the queue is empty.

All this sending from the interrupt service routine to the driver is expensive. A new system state called the "Suspend State" was invented to keep device drivers from having to use F\$SEND requests to start and stop its read and write



operations. The "suspend state" is a lot like a light nap. The process is in the grey area between sleep and activity. Suspended processes remain in the active process queue where they quickly age to the top of the queue, but while the suspend bit is on in their process descriptor they can't be scheduled. To wake a suspended process up just turn the suspend bit off in its process descriptor. The following code would wake a suspended process from the interrupt routine of a driver:

```
ldx (Address of process descriptor
    for the process you want to awaken)
lda 255-Suspend
anda P$State,X
sta P$State,X This sequence of instructions can
be done a great deal faster than a F$SEND.
```

A process can suspend itself by turning the suspend bit in its process descriptor on, then sleeping for a tick. The sleep is just a way of giving up the rest of the time slice. Even without the F\$Sleep, next time the dispatcher sees the suspended process descriptor it will treat it as suspended, and won't start it again until the suspend bit is turned off.

There are a few important limitations to the suspend state. The first is that a process can't get out of suspend state on its own. The second limitation is that the suspend bit is in the process descriptor which is in the system address space. A non-system process has no easy way of directly modifying the process descriptor. The last limitation is implicit in the advantage of suspend state, suspended processes stay in the active process queue. They will slow the dispatcher down slightly because it will have to pass over them each time it looks for the next process to run.

## OS-9 CIS COBOL

### Review of OS-9 CIS COBOL Overview

COBOL is a big language, an old language, and an extremely popular language. Some languages were designed to be compiled and run on small computers; COBOL was not. COBOL is vehemently detested by many people involved with computers, but, despite all the nasty publicity it gets, COBOL is probably the most used computer language in the world. If you need to hire an experienced programmer for a business application, you will find the hunting best if you shoot for a COBOL programmer. COBOL was one of the first compiled languages developed for computers (around 1960), and it has been being (arguably) improved since then. The fully "improved" version of COBOL is an enormous language whose compiler is fully capable of needing the best part of a megabyte of memory to run properly.

There are standards against which any version of COBOL should be measured. ANSI (American National Standards Institute) has defined a COBOL standard which constitutes the official definition of the language. CIS COBOL was written to conform to the ANSI standard definition of COBOL.

To quote the manual: "CIS COBOL is ANSI COBOL as given in 'American National Standard Programming Language COBOL' (ANSI X3.23 1974)." It includes level 1 of the ANSI definition of COBOL along with a few parts of level 2. This doesn't mean that CIS

COBOL is the version of the language you may have used on a mainframe computer, but it does mean that if you don't use the enhancements that CIS COBOL includes, the programs you write using it will run essentially unmodified on any other computer that runs level 2 or higher of ANSI COBOL. Also, since CIS COBOL is compiled to intermediate code, programs written in it can be run on any computer that has the appropriate interpreter. If you read the adds in BYTE, you will see that CIS COBOL is implemented for many computers.

I didn't test CIS COBOL exhaustively for conformance to the standard, but I did write a few programs in it. I am used to IBM's VS-COBOL, and a version of UNIVAC COBOL; both are highly enhanced versions of higher levels of ANSI COBOL than CIS COBOL. It took me a while to learn which of my favorite programming tricks aren't possible under level 1 of ANSI COBOL, but, after I learned the limitations I had to live with, I found that I could write programs with no more difficulty than I usually experience when writing in COBOL. I wish I had been able to transfer a program from the IBM to my micro and compile it, but I don't know of any real programs written to be compiled by ANSI level 1 COBOL. Transferring a program in the other direction is no problem.

There is far too much to CIS COBOL for me to say with certainty that it all works, but I understand that the language has actually been successfully tested against a set of standard test programs.

### Enhancements

Standard COBOL doesn't support the interactive microcomputer environment very well, but CIS COBOL includes enhancements to the ACCEPT and DISPLAY statements that make it relatively easy to display screens of data, and accept data from fields defined on the screen. Information can be accepted from, or displayed at, a particular cursor location. An input field can be defined as numeric only, in which case any inappropriate characters (like "A") won't be accepted. When a field is filled with data, the cursor automatically jumps to the beginning of the next field. There are special keys which jump the cursor forward and backward a field at a time. Special function keys can be defined. They act like a carriage return (terminate entry into a screen), but a program can determine whether a screen was terminated by a carriage return or a function key, and which function key was used. The location of the cursor when carriage return was pressed is also available. The net effect of these enhancements is that it is fairly easy to write CIS COBOL programs that accept and display screens of data.

In addition to the usual COBOL file organizations (including ISAM), CIS COBOL allows an organization they call "line sequential." Line sequential files are variable length record files, in which the records are terminated by carriage returns. This makes it easy to read and write files that Pascal would call "files of text." The most generally important examples of files of this type are files created by text editors, and line by line output to a terminal or printer. The other access modes supported by CIS COBOL are: sequential, relative, and indexed.

The names of files can be specified at run time using statements like:

```
SELECT FILE-15 ASSIGN TO FILE-15-NAME.
...
ACCEPT FILE-15-NAME.
OPEN INPUT FILE-15.
```

In addition to the standard ANSI debug features, CIS COBOL has a respectable interactive debugger. The commands available under this debugger are:

- P - Display the current program counter
- G - Set a breakpoint
- X - Single step
- D - Display data at specified offset in data division
- A - Change memory (ASCII)
- S - Set block for display or change
- / - Display block
- \* - Change bytes in block
- T - Trace paragraphs
- L - Write CR,LF
- M - Define a debug macro
- \$ - End a macro definition
- C - Display a specified character
- ; - precedes a comment (for describing macros)

The interactive debugger can be used on any COBOL program by including +D on the command line that invokes the program, e.g., RunC +D test.int. This means that you can use the debugger on a program without having to do anything special when you compile it.

Microware has included eight subroutines in the COBOL run time system which can be called from a COBOL program. MOVE-BLOCK is a procedure that can be used to do a high speed move of a block of data. ABORT terminates the program with an error code. CHAIN makes the standard OS-9 F\$Chain system call available. The FUN-KEY subroutine can be used after a ACCEPT statement to find out if a function key was pressed instead of the carriage return key, and which one. DATE returns the date and, optionally, the time. SHELL invokes a shell, passing it a specified string. CHX and CHD change the execution and data directories for the program.

The subroutines in the run time system are called by number. CIS COBOL can also call subroutines which are either COBOL I-code, or object code. The CALL statement looks like:

```
CALL "/DO/SUBLIB/TEST.SUB.1" USING ...
```

ON OVERFLOW .... The called program is loaded into memory if it is not already there, and, depending on whether the module header indicates that it is I-code or object code, interpreted or executed. If there is no room in memory for the new module, the ON OVERFLOW clause in the CALL statement gets control. The CANCEL verb unlinks a subroutine, freeing the memory it is using.

In addition to these methods of calling external subroutines, CIS COBOL supports program segmentation, which can be used to divide the program into sections that will remain on disk until they are needed. Segments use memory efficiently at the cost of extra disk I/O by sharing a common pool of overlay memory.

In addition to supporting ANSI COBOL level 1, including:

- The Nucleus
- Table Handling
- Sequential Input and Output
- Relative Input and Output
- Indexed Input and Output
- Segmentation
- Library (Copy)
- Inter-program communication

debug CIS COBOL supports parts of level 2 of ANSI COBOL including:

- Nested IF
- PERFORM UNTIL
- The START statement for Relative and Indexed I/O
- and full level 2 Inter-program communication

#### Limitations

I was disappointed with some of the restrictions of the low level of COBOL implemented for CIS COBOL, but not very surprised. I am more upset by some problems with terminal support, and the CONFIG utility that is used to customize the run time package for a particular type of terminal.

The features of advanced levels of COBOL that I missed most were AND and OR in IF statements. It is possible to do without boolean operations in IF statements, but I am not used to having to work around a limitation like that. Another very popular feature which is missing in CIS COBOL is the SORT statement. A surprising number of production COBOL programs include at least one sort, and it would be hard to eliminate a sort from a program without a major redesign.

The run time system which interprets the COBOL intermediate code also includes routines for terminal control. It is customized for a terminal by a utility program called CONFIG. I was not impressed with CONFIG. My favorite terminal uses the ANSI standard terminal control sequences ... CONFIG was clearly not written with my terminal in mind. I struggled for two evenings trying to get RunC configured for my TeleVideo with no success. Finally, I gave up and turned to my H-19, which was much more like what CONFIG wanted ... I had COBOL running in ten minutes. There were three fundamental problems with CONFIG's handling of my TeleVideo's control sequences. CONFIG expected most terminal control strings to be no more than three characters long; several of the ANSI strings are longer than that. CONFIG simply can't deal with the ANSI direct cursor positioning sequence; I circumvented that problem by pretending that my terminal didn't have a direct cursor positioning command, and specifying relative positioning. CONFIG can only deal with commands that move the cursor one row or column at a time in relative positioning mode. Since the ANSI strings that cause the cursor to move one row or column are three characters long, this is a slow way to adjust the cursor position. The clear-screen sequence for my terminal is four characters long; so I couldn't use it. RunC tries to fake a clear-screen somehow, but it makes a real mess of it. The clear-screen sequence somehow came out as a string of thousands of <bell> characters. I understand that a more recent version of CONFIG than the one I have allows a four character string for the clear-screen sequence. I think that would have made it possible for me to get my TeleVideo working with COBOL.

CONFIG forms a trap for the unwary user. Once you start into it there is no turning back. If you change your mind about the response you just keyed in, you have to wait until you reach the end of the entire (long) string of questions, and ask to be allowed to change a large subset of your answers. When you are going through CONFIG to fix a mistake or change an existing terminal description to fit a new terminal, you have to fill in the correct answer to each question. There is no way to select a default, or keep the old value. It is true that CONFIG is not likely to be a heavily used utility, but I found it so hard to use that I would much rather have written a few subroutines to support my terminals.

Once I got the screen support working, I found that I wasn't pleased with the way it worked. I believe that when the cursor leaves a numeric field, the field should be right justified and zero filled. The screen handling package in CIS COBOL seems to agree with me to some extent. If you enter a "." in an integer field it will right justify and zero fill, but if you exit the field with a carriage return (ending the entire screen) or down arrow



(moving to the next field), a test for numeric in the program will indicate that the field is not numeric. If the field has editing characters in it the field is inclined to end up left justified and zero filled.

I am used to getting useful, english error messages from COBOL; CIS COBOL gives error messages with numeric codes in them indicating what the error is. Even after I looked up the error, it wasn't clear what the problem was. For instance, when I hadn't declared a variable it told me that there was a type mismatch in the statement using the undeclared variable. When I tried to use AND and OR, it gave me the same error. I ended up treating the error message as "something's wrong around here."

#### Benchmarks

I ran two benchmarks against this COBOL: one for speed at numeric processing (the sieve), the other for speed in handling ISAM files. I adjusted the prime number program from the January 1983 BYTE slightly to fit ANSI level one, and ran it. This version of COBOL would have fallen nearly at the bottom of the chart given in that BYTE, between Microsoft COBOL and RMCOBOL. It took 541 seconds to find the first 1899 primes. I could have made the program run somewhat faster by using indexing instead of subscripting, but that would have spoiled the benchmark. I have to admit that I felt silly writing a Eratosthenes Sieve program in COBOL. Testing COBOL for its ability to find prime numbers is like testing programmers for their ability to read Latin; they may be able to do it but it is hardly relevant. I ran that benchmark because it is the most used benchmark for microcomputer languages, but I also ran another non-standard, but, I think, more relevant, benchmark.

I constructed a benchmark program which gives a good measure of the speed with which the language handles indexed I/O. Indexed I/O is very important to the group of users who might use COBOL. Interpreting the results of a benchmark that involves I/O is a little tricky. Certainly the file structure the language uses is very important, especially with a large indexed file; but the access time for the disk is an important factor, and the time the operating system takes for a context switch is somewhat important.

I built a file 10,000 records long of 55 byte records with five byte keys and then read it randomly reading two records alternately from each end. It took 2615 seconds to build the file and 3233 seconds to read the file (it would, of course, have been possible to read it faster if I had read sequentially). I ran these benchmarks on a GIMIX system with a CM 5000 Winchester (a file that size would not have fit on my 8" floppies). I used OS-9 Level Two on a 2 mhz 6809. The performance would have been much worse if I had used a floppy instead of a Winchester, and somewhat better if I had used GMX-111.

I compiled three COBOL programs on the same machine I ran the benchmarks on. A simple merge program which I haven't included with this review took 45 seconds to compile, the sieve compiled in 35 seconds, and the ISAM test program took 43 seconds.

#### Summary

It is possible to get past the problems with CONFIG, to learn to live with the primitive error messages, and to feel comfortable with the screen handling conventions. What is left is a substantial implementation of an old, but useful language. I

don't think everyone should run out and buy this package, but, for a few people, it could be uniquely useful. If you want to use a group of COBOL programs on microcomputer, it would certainly be easier to convert them from one level of COBOL to another than to translate them into an entirely different language. CIS COBOL would be a good teaching tool for schools unable to afford time on a machine with a full-blown COBOL compiler. It should be relatively easy to find programmers who can work in COBOL. With CIS COBOL, a microcomputer could be used as a development environment for COBOL programs, though the low level of CIS COBOL would prevent this in most cases. Perhaps the most significant advantage of CIS COBOL over other languages is that programs written in CIS COBOL can be moved in I-Code form to a variety of other machines and operating systems, and run without source code. UCSD Pascal has shown that this is an asset even though it can't generally run under a normal operating system.

CIS COBOL was written by Micro Focus Limited. Microware wrote a run time package for it that allows any program written in CIS COBOL, including CIS COBOL itself, to be run under OS-9. By writing a run time package for CIS COBOL, and arranging to license it for OS-9, Microware made a large collection of business software available to OS-9 users. If you are looking for a nice accounting system, payroll, MRP system, or whatever, check with Microware. They have a long list of vendors offering programs which run under the CIS COBOL run time system.

Some small number of people will find Microware's version of CIS COBOL just what they need. If you think you are one of those people, I recommend that you get the manual before you commit to the language. The manuals won't be any help to you if you don't know COBOL, but, if you do, they will leave you with an accurate impression of the language, and either leave you impatient to get the software, or disappointed about some important missing feature (most likely sort).

Peter Dibble

```

** CIS COBOL V4.4          sieve.cbl          PAGE: 0001
**
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.                                0118
PROGRAM--18. SIEVE.                                       0118
AUTHOR, PETER DIBBLE.                                     0118
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.                                    0118
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.                                 0118
77 PRIME                                PIC 9(5) COMP.    0184 00
77 PRIME-COUNT                          PIC 9(5) COMP.    0187 03
77 I                                    PIC 9(4) COMP.      018A 06
77 K                                    PIC 9(5) COMP.      018C 08
01 BIT-ARRAY.                                           018F 00
   03 BIT OCCURS 8191 TIMES PIC 9 COMP.                018F 08
PROCEDURE DIVISION.                                     0000
START-UP.                                                0000 00
   DISPLAY "TEN ITERATIONS".                             0009
   PERFORM SIEVE THROUGH SIEVE-END.                     0020
   DISPLAY "PRIMES FOUND: ", PRIME-COUNT.                0025
   STOP RUN.                                              0044
SIEVE.                                                    0045 00
   MOVE ZERO TO PRIME-COUNT.                             0046
   MOVE 1 TO I.                                           0048
   PERFORM INIT-BITS 8191 TIMES.                         0055
   MOVE 1 TO K.                                           0061
   PERFORM SCAN-FOR-PRIMES THROUGH END-SCAN-FOR-PRIMES 0069
   8191 TIMES.                                           0069
SIEVE-END.                                               0077 00
EXIT.                                                     0078
INIT-BITS.                                               0078 00
   MOVE 1 TO BIT (1).                                    0079

```

```

ADD I TO I.
END-INIT-BITS.
EXIT.
SCAN-FOR-PRIMES.
  IF BIT (I) = 0
  THEN
    GO TO NOT-PRIME.
  ADD I TO GIVING PRIME.
  DISPLAY PRIME.
  ADD I PRIME GIVING K.
  PERFORM STRIKOUT UNTIL K > 3191.
  ADD I TO PRIME-COUNT.
NOT-PRIME.
  ADD I TO I.
END-SCAN-FOR-PRIMES.
EXIT.
STRIKOUT.
  MOVE 0 TO BIT (K).
  ADD PRIME TO K.
END-PROGRAM.
EXIT.

** C15 COBOL V4.4 REVISION 0
** COMPILER COPYRIGHT (C) 1978,1981 MICRO FOCUS LTD
** ERRORS=00000 DATA=00590 CODE=00370 DICT=00272:01011/01003 GSA FLAGS= OFF

** C15 COBOL V4.4
**
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. ISAM-BENCHMARK.
AUTHOR. PETER OTTLE.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SOURCE-COMPUTER. GIMIX.
OBJECT-COMPUTER. GIMIX.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
  SELECT ISAM-FILE-1 ASSIGN 'ISAM.FILE';
  ORGANIZATION IS INDEXED;
  ACCESS MODE IS SEQUENTIAL;
  RECORD KEY IS ISAM-KEY-1.
  SELECT ISAM-FILE-2 ASSIGN 'ISAM.FILE';
  ORGANIZATION IS INDEXED;
  ACCESS MODE IS RANDOM;
  RECORD KEY IS ISAM-KEY-2.

DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD ISAM-FILE-1;
  DATA RECORD ISAM-RECORD-1.
01 ISAM-RECORD-1.
  03 ISAM-KEY-1
  03 FILLER
FD ISAM-FILE-2;
  DATA RECORD ISAM-RECORD-2.
01 ISAM-RECORD-2.
  03 ISAM-KEY-2
  03 FILLER
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
77 KEY-NO
77 HI-NUMBER
77 LO-NUMBER
77 DATE
01 WORK-DATA.
  03 WORK-KEY
  03 I-DATA
01 SYSTEM-DATE.
  03 YEAR
  03 MONTH
  03 DAY
01 SYSTEM-TIME.
  03 HOUR
  03 MINUTE
  03 SECOND

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
START-UP.
  OPEN OUTPUT (ISAM-FILE-1).
  MOVE 'ASSORTED DATA: NAME, ADDRESS, ETC, OR WHATEVER' TO
  I-DATA.
  ADD I KEY-NO GIVING LO-NUMBER.
  MOVE KEY-NO TO WORK-KEY.

```

```

0089
0097 00
0098
0098 00
0099
00AC
0080
00C3
0001
00E6
00F4 00
00F5
0103 00
0104
0104 00
0105
0115
0123 00
0124

0074
008E
0096
00BF
00B7
0007
PAGE: 0002

** C15 COBOL V4.4
**
CALL DATE USING SYSTEM-DATE, SYSTEM-TIME.
DISPLAY 'TIME * HOUR, *:', MINUTE, *:', SECOND
PERFORM ADD-RECORD 10000 TIMES.
CLOSE ISAM-FILE-1.
DISPLAY 'BUILD DONE'.

CALL DATE USING SYSTEM-DATE, SYSTEM-TIME.
DISPLAY 'TIME * HOUR, *:', MINUTE, *:', SECOND
MOVE WORK-KEY TO HI-NUMBER.
DISPLAY 'READ STARTING'.
OPEN INPUT ISAM-FILE-2.
PERFORM TEST-READS 2500 TIMES.
CLOSE ISAM-FILE-2.
CALL DATE USING SYSTEM-DATE, SYSTEM-TIME.
DISPLAY 'TIME * HOUR, *:', MINUTE, *:', SECOND
DISPLAY 'READ DONE'.
STOP RUN.

ADD-RECORD.
  ADD I TO WORK-KEY.
  WRITE (ISAM-RECORD-1 FROM WORK-DATA;
  INVALID KEY PERFORM ERROR-1.

ERROR-1.
  DISPLAY 'INVALID KEY: ', ISAM-KEY-1.

TEST-READS.
  PERFORM READ-HIGH.
  PERFORM READ-HIGH.
  PERFORM READ-LOW.
  PERFORM READ-LOW.

READ-HIGH.
  MOVE HI-NUMBER TO ISAM-KEY-2, WORK-KEY.
  READ ISAM-FILE-2; INVALID KEY PERFORM ERROR-2.
  SUBTRACT I FROM WORK-KEY GIVING HI-NUMBER.

ERROR-2.
  DISPLAY 'INVALID KEY: ', WORK-KEY.

READ-LOW.
  MOVE LO-NUMBER TO WORK-KEY, ISAM-KEY-2.
  READ ISAM-FILE-2; INVALID KEY PERFORM ERROR-2.
  ADD I WORK-KEY GIVING LO-NUMBER.

END-PROGRAM.
EXIT.

** C15 COBOL V4.4 REVISION 0
** COMPILER COPYRIGHT (C) 1978,1981 MICRO FOCUS LTD
** ERRORS=00000 DATA=00705 CODE=00703 DICT=00612:01271/01003 GSA FLAGS= OFF

```

## "C" User Notes

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As promised last month, we will have look at the Dyna-C compiler; also, some hints on using command line arguments and, since I have gotten some letters about the subject, some of the different ways you can play around with arrays and pointers.

### DYNA-C COMPILER

I finally got some time to investigate the OS-9 version of the Dyna-C compiler and, so far, have liked what I've found. The compiler is a Small-C variant for the 6809 based on Ron Cain's original article; which is freely acknowledged in the introduction of the manual.

The whole file package fits onto a single 5.25" diskette and includes

- manual
- Dc the compiler (DC-CMD for FLEX)
- chad.a a standard runtime support header
- stdio.h the standard I/O header file
- stdio.a the assembler I/O file
- extio.c extended I/O functions and string operators
- ctype.h an assembler file containing such functions as toupper(), tolower() and such
- primes.c

The manual is quite well done. The organization and neat layout make for easy, comprehensive reading. After a brief introduction and description of the distribution disk, it launches right into how to compile programs. Next comes the Dyna-C language definition. This section details the differences between Dyna-C and the full implementation. There is a section on the standard library, running separate compilations and compiler internals. The last section is summary of Dyna-C syntax.

I've said it so often that this will probably sound like a broken record. The manual does not attempt to give a tutorial on the language. But it does provide adequate documentation to understand and use the compiler.

The compiler is a pretty good subset for a "small" compiler. It would probably be shorter to say what it doesn't have, but safer to tell you what it does have. Here's a partial description of its features

#### data types

int, char

#### declarations

type - int or char,  
pointer to type - \*type,  
array of type - type[],  
array of pointer to type - \*type[],  
pointer to pointer - \*\*type,  
pointer to array of pointers - \*\*type[]  
etc..

#### constants

decimal, octal, hex, character, string

#### escaped characters

The usual complement with one exception; \n the newline character is really <cr>. If you want <lf> then you must use \010.

#### operators

The operators include just about the full span of unary, binary, assignment and logical operators. Two that are missing are the >>= and <<= assignments. On the other hand, the conditional assignment operator ?: is included.

#### control structures

if-then-else  
while  
do while  
for  
switch  
break  
continue  
goto

#### directives

#include  
#define  
#ifdef-#ifndef-#endif  
#asm-#endasm

As you can see, it's a pretty complete set that should allow you to go quite far in general, system type programming before the compiler starts to limit you in any severe way.

Compiling a program is pretty straight forward. If the whole program exists in one file then you can get by with the commands (for OS-9)

```
Dc [options] sourcefile asmfile [sourcefile2]...
Asm asmfile o=objectfile #20k
```

The first line would actually compile the input files and produce an output file. If no assembler file name is given, then the output goes to the terminal. In which case you could only compile one file since the second source file would be considered the assembler file. The next command just assembles the file. The #20k is an OS-9 parameter that tells the operating system how much data memory to allocate to the process.

There isn't anything magic about the 20k. The number was taken right from the example in the manual. I tried one compilation of a reasonably sized program (about 6 or 7 pages of C source code) without specifying any additional memory and the assembler ran out of symbol table. Using 20k allowed the program to assemble without a hitch.

There are only two or three switches (options) for the compiler, depending on the operating system. These are

```
-s      Include the C source code as assembler
        comments.
-pxx    Indicates that this module is not the
        "main" module so that internal compiler
        labels will start with the prefix xx.
-nName  (OS-9 only) assign Name as the module
        name. The default is Cprog, or any
        name specified in the #module directive.
```

The -pxx is a really nice way to handle multiple modules when you can't use a linker. Most Small-C compilers allow you to specify the starting number nnnn for each module of the program. This could get touchy when there are a number of modules. You have to start with incr\_ents big enough to avoid duplicate labels. It is also a VERY sticky problem when you to build up decent libraries.

Dyna-C clears away most of the problem by letting you pick the prefix instead. Even avoiding the use of "cc", which is the default, still leaves LOTS of different combinations. In fact, it may often be possible to pick to letters that are mnemonically meaningful to the file. This could make generating and maintaining libraries easier. Kudos to DynaSoft for a clever idea on that one.

Where I personally differ with DynaSoft is how they include standard support functions. To me the organization of the standard library seems chaotic. For example, fopen(), fclose(), read() and write() are in chead.a. Getchar(), getch(), putchar(), and putc() are in stdio.a; which gets called from stdio.h. The file extio.c has the functions printf(), fputs(), gets(), fgets(), fputs(), strcat(), strcpy(), strlen(), and atoi(). Finally, ctype.h includes most of the is...() and to...() functions which are written in assembler between #asm and #endasm directives.

A more convenient approach might be to make the entire library "stand alone" assembler sources with a finer granulation of functions within files, according to their use. A potential reorganization might be

```
thead.a  All necessary run time set up and
        the terminal primitives getchar(),
        gets(), putchar() and puts().

extio.a  File I/O such as fopen(), fclose(),
        getch(), fgets(), putc(), read(),
        write(), and fputs().

char.a   The character test functions is...()
        and to...().

string.a The basic string functions such as
        strcat(), atoi(), strlen() etc.

printf.a The formatted I/O routines such as
        printf(), fprintf() etc.
```

I realize that there may be coupling between many of the functions that would render such an arbitrary



grouping impractical. But there are advantages to going it this way. The two most important would be that the inclusion of the library can be made independent of any C source modules and that it will occur at assembly time, not at compile time. This could result in significant time and code size savings. What would then be required is an assembler file that contains nothing more than a bunch of INCLUDE or LIB statements that pull in all the necessary modules and libraries. This should sound familiar; I have mentioned it for other Small-C compilers as well.

Note that the sources for much of the library could be supplied to the user as C code, who could then modify them to suit the needs at hand.

This approach is not without its own disadvantages of course. Careful attention must be paid to the assembler file that contains all the INCLUDE's to insure that all the necessary modules are brought in. Adding a new module would require updating that file. It might also require a more thought when transporting programs from other environments, such as UNIX.

For example. Under UNIX, the `is...()` and `to...()` character test functions are really macros contained in the file `ctype.h` (I rather suspect that this is the reason Dyna-C has them as assembler code the same file). If you had implemented a library along my suggestions, you would certainly have to do some editing in order to compile the program. Oh well, there goes the free lunch!

Getting back on the track. When I received the package I also got some of Dynasoft's proprietary utilities to try on the compiler. I have compiled and run these programs as well as the old standby `primes.c`.

The compilation and assembler process by and large went smoothly and without a hitch. I did have to slightly modify one C program by changing the order of two #includes to avoid one error, but that was all.

The programs seemed to work smoothly, which I expected since they are in use at Dynasoft all the time. Examination of the code produced by the compiler showed it to be tight and well structured. `Primes` ran in 29.5 seconds on my IMHz system. That's pretty quick. In fact, I believe that it's the fastest time I've seen from a Small-C compiler for this coding of the `primes` program. And that includes the 4Mhz Z80's as well. Come to think of it, at 2Mhz (equivalent to a 4Mhz Z80) the program should run in a little under 15 seconds. That even beats most of the big compilers for the Z80 according to the benchmarks published in *BYTE* magazine last year.

Based on the programs I've compiled and the code I've looked at I would rate this as a very desirable package for the C neophyte. You can get your feet wet without a lot of expense and still do a lot of very serious programming before needing a full compiler.

## COMMAND LINE ARGUMENTS, ARRAYS AND POINTERS

I have received a few letters that requested some more details on pointers, arrays and strings. Some of you have also wanted some hints on using command line arguments. Since command line arguments are strings, which in turn are accessed as arrays or with pointers, let's kill two birds with one stone. We'll look at strings, pointers and arrays by using command line arguments.

The processing of command line arguments is really a function of both the operating system and the particular compiler that you are using. All the 6809 compilers on the market today have some sort of argument handling as part of the runtime support code.

The minimum handling consists of converting all the arguments (of the command line that invoked the program) into valid, NULL terminated C arrays of characters, or strings. This can happen in a number of ways. The compiler could first copy the whole line into another buffer or do the conversion with the line still contained in the operating system's command line buffer. Where it actually happens is really irrelevant to the program.

Three things happen as each argument on the line is processed. First, an argument count (initialized at zero) is incremented. Then a pointer to the first character of the argument is put into an array of pointers. Finally, the end of the argument is found and the character following it is changed to a NULL, thereby terminating the string.

After the command line is parsed `main()` is called with two parameters on the stack, the count of the arguments and the address of the first pointer (of the array of pointers).

Let's assume we are running a program under FLEX where the runtime code parses the line in FLEX's command line buffer, which starts at `$C080`. Suppose that the command line is

```
++cprog arg1 arg2 arg3
```

For convenience, let's put a ruler under the line to count off the characters in the buffer. The ruler will be calibrated in Hex to make life easier.

```

cprog arg1 arg2 arg3
-----+-----+-----+-----+
0      8      10

```

By a convention established with the UNIX operating system, the first argument is the program name. So the argument count starts at 1. Let's also assume that the program is building the array of pointers in memory at `$4000`.

The parser would start scanning the command line from `$C080` looking for the first argument. In this case it would encounter 'c' at `$C080`. It would then increment the arg count to 1; put address `$C080` into locations `$4000` and `$4001`; then scan for and change the terminator following CPROG into a NULL. Since the terminator was not a <cr>, it would continue scanning until it came across `arg1`. It would then repeat all the previous steps. This process would continue until the end of the line terminator <cr> was encountered.

The final argument count would be 4. If we stopped the program at this point and did an EXAMINE of `$4000` from SBUG, the first 8 bytes would look like

```
$4000 C0 80 C0 86 C0 8B C0 90
```

These are the pointers to each argument on the line.

The argument count, 4, and a pointer to the first element of the array, `$4000`, are put on the stack just prior to calling the user's program. Note that it is the address of the pointer array that is put on the stack and not the address of the command line.

To get access to these arguments you must declare `main` as

```
main(argc, argv)
int argc;      /* the argument count */
char *argv[]; /* the pointer array */
```

There is nothing sacred about using the names `argc` and `argv` for the variables. This is also a convention carried over from C programs developed on the UNIX system. You can name them anything you want, it has nothing to do with the language.

Understanding the declaration for `argv` may not be obvious to the casual or beginning user so let's decipher it. This is done by starting at the variable's name and working outward.

There is a variable named `argv`. The name is enclosed by \* and [].

The [] is a primary expression operator and has the highest binding priority. Another way of saying that you attach it to the name first.

```
argv[]
an array (of something)
```

The \* could either be the multiply operator or indirection operator. Since this is a declaration, it must be the latter. We now have

```
*argv[]
an array -- of pointers (to something)
```

Finally, we are left with `char`. So we end up with

```
char *argv[];
an array -- of pointers -- to chars
```

Another, synonymous, declaration form for argv would be

```
char **argv;
a pointer -- to a pointer -- to chars
```

It may take you a while to accept these as being equivalent, but the compiler treats them that way.

Ok, so how do we use all this stuff in a program? Consider the case where a program expects to find a list of one or more file names to process and possibly an option or two. For purposes of the following discussion assume the previous declaration for main(); repeated here for clarity.

```
main(argc, argv)
int argc;
char *argv[];
{
    ...
```

Since the program needs at least one file name to process, calling the program with no arguments is an error. We can handle this condition with

```
if (argc < 2)
{
    printf("no filenames");
    exit();
}
```

If argc is 2 or larger, then we have one or more arguments. Now we must check whether any particular argument is an option or a filename. This could be done with a simple for loop.

```
for (i = 1; i < argc; i++)
    if (*argv[i] == '+')
        set_option(argv[i]);
    else process_file(argv[i]);
```

Note two things here. The array is an array of pointers. To look at what an array element points to use the form

```
*argv[i]
```

To pass the pointer to a function we just need to pass the actual value of an array element with

```
argv[i]
```

If there was only one option, named x then we might want to test for it right in the loop, in which case the code could be

```
for (i = 1; i < argc; i++)
    if (*argv[i] == '+')
        if (*++argv[i] == 'x')
            do_something();
        else
        {
            printf("unknown option");
            exit();
        }
    else process_file(argv[i]);
```

This starts to get a little more complex. Once there is an option, we must look at the second character to determine if it is x. The easiest way to do this is to preincrement the pointer past the "+" and test the next character. This is done in

```
*++argv[i].
```

We know that [i] binds the tightest, but will we increment argv[i], or what it points to. Since \* and ++ have the same binding level, but associate from right to

left, the rightmost symbol binds first. So we are incrementing argv[i] and then using it as a pointer. If you had not been sure then you could have parenthesised it as

```
*(++argv[i])
```

I tend to parenthesis often since it is very clear both to me and to the compiler what I really want. You can really get carried away with this. Suppose that what is pointed to will be incremented and then the pointer will be incremented. This yields

```
++*++argv[i]
```

Then to add to the confusion, you might also want to preincrement the index which gives

```
++*++argv[++i]
```

Timeout! Enough is enough. The eye-brain system starts to overload on this one. It's cute and the compiler should have no problem interpreting it. But would you really want to try to understand a program sprinkled with these kind of bombshells through it? If the statement becomes too complex break it into pieces.

If you had a pointer to an array it would, by definition, point to the zeroeth (first) element. In the C compilers that we have for the 6809, an array is never passed as a whole entity. Instead we either pass the value or the address of a particular element. To pass the value of element 4 of the array 'value' we would use

```
do_something(value[4]);
```

But to pass its address we would use

```
do_something(&value[4]);
```

It just so happens that, as a convenience, we can refer to the address of the first element of an array by the array name itself. Assume a program has a buffer declared as

```
char user_input[50];
```

The buffer is to be passed to some function that will do something to the line. The code could be

```
act_on_buffer(user_input);
```

This would be exactly the same as

```
act_on_line(&user_input[0]);
```

There are some other ways in which pointers and arrays may be intermixed in use. Generally, it is more efficient to use pointers than arrays since there is less address computation.

Consider the following simple function.

```
process(s)
char s;
{
    while (*s)
        switch(*s++)
        {
            case 'a' : action1();
                        break;

            case 'b' : action2();
                        break;

            case 'c' : action3();
                        break;

            case 'd' : if (s[-2] == 'a')
                        action4();
                        else
                        action5();
                        break;

            default : action6();
        }
}
```

Process() has only one argument, s, which is a pointer to char. The function scans the character string and does some kind of action depending on what character is found. For efficiency, s is incremented directly each time through the loop after its value has been taken by the switch statement. There is a unique action for all characters except 'd', which has two possible actions. What action gets taken depends on the character that preceded 'd'. Rather than actually manipulate the pointer and then have to restore it, the function just looks backward with the negative index. In this case, since the pointer has been incremented past the 'd', it is necessary to use -2 instead of -1.

This function is a poor example in that it makes the assumption that a 'd' will never occur as the first character of the line, otherwise it would memory that preceded the first element of the string. However, it does at least bring out the fact that we can use a negative index. Note that s was declared as

```
char *s;
```

but we turned around and used

```
s[-2]
```

This is possible because the compiler looks at the declarations

```
char *s and char s[];
```

synonymously. Maybe it's clearer to think of the second declaration as being another way of saying "s is a pointer to char".

You should also get comfortable with the fact that, given an array called 'an array', then accessing the 5th element of the array can be done with either  

```
an_array[5]; or *(an_array + 5);
```

To understand why think of it this way. The intent of either statement is to look at element 5. So in both cases, the compiler will multiply 5 by the size of an array's data type, expressed in bytes. If the data type was char, then nothing would be done. If the data type was int, then the offset is multiplied by two.

Being able to refer to an object as an array or with via a pointer is quite handy. But like all good things it can be abused. A computer scientist might find this lack of strong typing detrimental, but a programmer will find it timesaving.

IT'S A WRAP

That's it for this column. I hope that it has helped shed some more light on array and pointers. I don't have the next column nailed down, but I will try to finish up a couple utilities and get at least one of them into print. Tell then...

## SELECTRIC 6800 DRIVERS

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### Add A Selectric Printer To Your 6800

One of the early realizations I had while setting up my computer for business use was that the ASR-33 just would not make it as a printer. I mean, for program listings, OK, but could you see my editor's face if I sent in a manuscript prepared on it? That kind of "tsoris" I

don't need. A friend had a dot-matrix printer which I borrowed for a while. It was fast, but hardly the quality I had hoped for.

Thus it was with quite some joy that I acquired a Selectric printer, with "serial" interfacing. Only problem was that try as I might, no print would come out when I hooked it up to an ACIA port on my 6800 based computer. Some research provided the answer. This Selectric, as many others, uses Correspondence code, not ASCII. Not only is the code itself different, but the baud rate is an oddball (for most computers) 134.5 baud. Hoo boy!

I recalled seeing an ad for an ASCII board for the printer on hand, a Trendata 1000 (identical to the Datatrans 1000). Scrounging through some old issues of Kilobaud, I found it. An assembled ASCII to Correspondence code converter, designed for the Trendata, only \$250! Two-hundred and fifty dollars? There has got to be a cheaper way.

Well, of course, there is. Why would I write an article if all you had to do was plunk down a quarter-thou to be on ASCII? Besides, the way I ended up, not only can you switch type elements (golf balls), but the printer even has some smarts, with form feeds and variable length pages. Interested? Read on.

You see, old issues of Kilobaud Microcomputing, 73, and who knows, maybe even Byte, do have value. For while I was routing around looking for that old ad I came across an article in the November, 1979, issue of Kilobaud Microcomputing which described an ASCII to Selectric driver for an 8080 based system. While not directly applicable, it started me thinking, and I examined the author's encoding technique carefully. After some tinkering, both with hardware and software, I came upon a workable scheme. A few modifications later, a very nice printer was up and running.

As the author of the 1979 article pointed out, the scheme used by IBM in the six bit Correspondence code is analogous to the common Teletype(R) five-level Baudot code, in that two character sets are used, with up-shift and down-shift commands. In my 73 Magazine column, RTTY Loop, I outlined a scheme for the 6800 which performed the translating of Baudot to ASCII back in July, 1978. Changing the



timing loops and code table quickly produced the skeleton of a working system.

The code table is organized much as the one in the 8080 article. If you have access to a Selectric manual, one was purchased with my printer and is an invaluable asset, you will find that each character requires six data bits, a parity bit, and start and stop bits. The table is organized so that shifting the bits out of the byte retrieved from the right (LSB) side results in transmission in the correct order. This produces a code table in which the data is in reverse order, on a bit-by-bit basis within each byte, from the standard IBM code. Also, the leftmost bit of each byte is used as a case bit, with "1" stored for lower case and "0" for upper case.

Of course, most of the characters easily sort into upper or lower case. There are three, however, in which case does not matter, at least with the "standard" type ball. These are the space, period, and comma, all of which are represented in both upper and lower case. Rather than have the machine jump back and forth to change cases when encountering one of these characters, I included a bit of logic to bypass the shift change if one of these three characters was to be printed.

Another problem was that of carriage returns. Not to decode line feeds was obvious. The Selectric has no mechanism for performing a carriage return without a line feed, and since essentially all of the software habitually sends a line feed after a carriage return, having the decoder software ignore the line feed neatly solves one problem. Additionally, the printer must pause when returning, or else the next character will end up smeared across the page as the typing element flies back to the left margin. Although a set of contacts is available inside the printer to send a signal when the carrier is set at the left margin, interfacing them was felt to be more difficult than providing a simple short delay. Thus a software delay was incorporated in order to provide the pause that refreshes after a carriage return.

Tabbing? Sure, why not. The standard ASCII TAB character, control-I, hex \$09, is decoded to the Selectric TAB character. Send a tab out, tab a tab over. What could be simpler?

As noted in the earlier article, several codes are decoded by the Selectric to place the machine on and off line. Since the turn-on code is the number nine, setting the machine up once it is running will cause an extraneous "9" to be printed. I therefore included the turn off code in the table, decoded as the equivalent to ASCII control-S (for Stop), and send this first in the initialization, followed by the turn on character. Thus, if the machine is on line, it is turned off before being turned on again. If it is already off, it, of course, ignores anything until the turn-on code is sent.

Finally, the need for some more intelligence was obvious. So, logic was added to enable the printer driver to keep track of the current line number in a page, and, upon receipt of a Form Feed (control-L or \$0C) automatically advance to the first line of the next page. In order to set up the number of lines, an ESCAPE sequence is sent to the printer. Upon receipt of an ESC code (\$1B), the program takes the next byte as the page length, and sets the current line counter to zero. If the character following the ESC is \$01, however, the page length is not changed, only the line pointer is restored to zero.

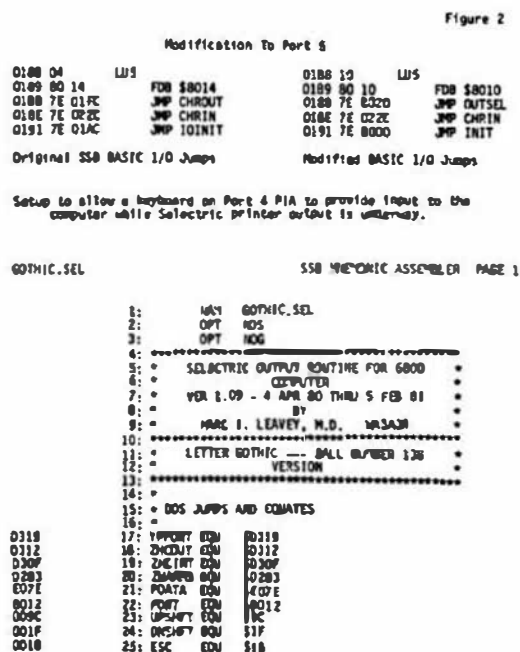
When first implemented, the form feed worked well, but, because it used carriage returns to run down the page, it was a bit slow. I then allowed the ASCII vertical tab character (control-K, \$0B) to be decoded as the Selectric INDEX character, really a line feed. This allowed the rapid feeding of lines and significantly improved the driver's function.

Other characters that were not represented on the type ball I first used were either assigned as a null or space, as the fancy struck me. At least this allowed me the facility for writing in those omitted characters on drafts requiring one or two of them.

After a while, it became apparent that several of the ASCII character set, most notably the greater and less than signs, were fairly indispensable for BASIC listings and the like. I even liked to use them as attention getters on bills and such. A short search (checking through my office supplier's catalog) turned up the Manifold type ball, which seemed to be just what I needed. This ball has only upper case, but includes most of the ASCII

At the end of the source listing is a short routine that loads into the transient command area (TCA) of DOS which does several things. First, it begins initialization of the output PIA, which is later finished by the standard initialization routine at \$B000. It also prints a banner to tell me which type ball I have selected and what the current page length is. These may not be necessary, I called the two routines GOTHIC.SEL and MNIFLD.SEL so which type ball I get is obvious, but it is nice to know what the

How many things can be this simple? A software driver for a Selectric printer that neatly interfaces to DOS and all other major programs. Hardware involved is zip, and the software even adds a few features that the "ASCII Selectrics" don't have. Now, if only a modem was this easy.



```

26: ***** INITIALIZATION ROUTINE *****
27:
28:
30: INIT CLR $8000 SET UP PIA
31: CLR PORT FOR OUTPUT
32: LDA A #57F
33: STA A PORT
34: LDA A #54
35: STA A PORT+1
36: LDA A #513 TAKE PRINTER OFF LINE
37: BSR OUTSEL
38: LDA A #539 PUT BACK ON LINE
39: BSR OUTSEL
40: RTS THEN EXIT
41:
42: ***** CHARACTER OUTPUT ROUTINE *****
43:
44: ORG $8020
45: OUTSEL TST ESCPLG IS ESCAPE SEQUENCE IN PROGRESS?
46: BNE FUNCTN YES - DO A FUNCTION
47: CMP A #5C NO - IS THIS AN ESCAPE?
48: BNE NOTES: NOT THAT EITHER - SEND - CHARACTER
49: SETPLG INC BSCPLG YES! SET THE ESC FLAG AND
50: BUGOUT RTS GO HOME...
51: ***** ESCAPE SEQUENCE DECODER *****
52: FUNCTN CLR ESCPLG CLEAR ESCAPE FLAG
53: CLR LINDEX CLEAR LINE COUNTER
54: CMP A #501 IS SEQUENCE ESC-1?
55: BNE BUGOUT YES - ALL DONE
56: STA A PAGLEN NOPE - SET NEW PAGE LENGTH
57: BSR BUGOUT THEN GET OUT OF HERE.
58: ***** CHARACTER OUTPUT *****
59: NOTES: STA A ASTOR SAVE ALL INCOMING DATA FOR
60: STA B BSTORE LATER.
61: STX $570H
62: AND A #57F MASK OFF YES
63: STA A ASCHRR SAVE THE ASCII FOR LATER
64: CMP A #500 WAS IT A CR RET?
65: BNE NOTCR NO - TRY ANOTHER CHOICE
66: JNC LINDEX YES - INCREMENT LINE COUNTER
67: LDA B LINDEX IS THE PAGE
68: CMP B PAGLEN FULL YET?
69: BNE NOTCR NO - GO ON
70: CLR LINDEX YES - CLEAR LINE COUNTER
71: NOTCR CMP A #50C IS CHARACTER A FORM FEED?
72: BNE NOTFF NOT THAT EITHER - HUNT
73: LDA B LINDEX GET CURRENT LINE
74: STA B LINDEXV AND
75: LDA A #520 SEND LINE FEEDS
76: BSR IOSTAT UNTIL
77: LDA B LINDEXV PAGE IS
78: INC B DONE
79: CMP B PAGLEN
80: BNE FFLOOP
81: CLR LINDEX THEN CLEAR EVERYTHING
82: CLR A AND GO ON.
83: NOTFF CMP A #520 IS IT A SPACE?
84: BNE NOSHIFT
85: CMP A #500 IS IT A PERIOD?
86: BNE NOSHIFT
87: CMP A #500 IS IT A COMMA?
88: BNE NOSHIFT IF ANY - SETUP SHIFT BYPASS
89: BSR PRESET OTHERWISE CLEAR THE FLAG
90: BSR GETTAB
91: NOSHIFT CMP A #500
92: INC PASSSET PUTTING A 1 IN PASS SHIFT FLAG
93: GETTAB STA A (INDX-1) PUT CHARACTER 1 TO TABLE INDEX
94: LDA A #TABLE SET UP TABLE
95: INDEX CMP A #500 AND RETRIEVE CHARACTER.
96: CMP A #57F IF IT IS 57F THEN
97: BNE EXIT FORGET IT.
98: GOTSEL T T PASSSET SHOULD WE WORRY ABOUT SHIFTY
99: BNE SHIFTD NO - FLAG SET
100: TST A IF MSB SET THEN CHAR IS LOWER CASE
101: BNE LOCASE NOW, THE CHARACTER IS UPPER CASE
102: UPKASE TST SETPLG IF SHIFT FLAG=1 THEN ALL IS OK
103: BNE SHIFTD IF SHIFT FLAG=1 THEN ALL IS OK
104: STA A SELCHR OTHERWISE SAVE CHARACTER
105: LDA A #UPSHFT SEND OUT A SHIFT UP
106: BSR OUTPUT
107: JNC SETPLG SET FLAG
108: LDA A SELCHR RETRIEVE CHARACTER
109: BSR SHIFTD AND PUT IT OUT
110: LOCASE TST SETPLG NOW, THE CHARACTER IS LOW B CASE
111: BNE SHIFTD IF SHIFT FLAG=0 THEN ALL IS OK
112: STA A SELCHR OTHERWISE SAVE CHARACTER
113: LDA A #DOWNSHT SEND OUT A SHIFT DOWN
114: BSR OUTPUT
115: CLR SETPLG CLEAR FLAG
116: LDA A SELCHR RETRIEVE CHARACTER
117: SHIFTD BSR AND PUT OUT THE CHARACTER.
118: LDA A ASCHRR BEFORE WE LEAVE, GET BACK THE ASCII
119: CMP A #500 WAS IT A CR RET?
120: BNE PASSCR NO - TRY AGAIN
121: CRULAY LDA #57FFF YES - DELAY FOR A BIT
122: CRULOP DEL TO ALLOW THE CARRIAGE TO REST
123: BNE CRULOP
124: CRULP2 DEL
125: BNE CRULP2
126: PASSCR CMP A #50C WAS IT A FORM FEED?
127: BNE EXIT NO - GO HOME NOW
128: FFDELAY DT #5000 YES - DELAY FOR A SHORTER TIME
129: FFDELAY DEL $5000 AT 2 MHZ, $2800 AT 1 MHZ
130: BNE FFDELUP
131: LDA A ASTOR GET BACK ALL YOU STORED
132: LDA B BSTORE AT THE BEGINNING THEN
133: LDZ XSTOR LEAVE
134: RTS ... QUIETLY!
135: ***** SOFTWARE UART ROUTINE *****
136: OUTPUT LDA B #57 SET UP SEVEN BIT COUNTER
137: STA A STOREA
138: CMP A #500 SEND START BIT
139: STA A PORT
140: BSR DELAY
141: OUTPLP CLR
142: LDA A STOREA SHIFT OUT EACH DATA BIT
143: LDA B STOREA
144: STA A STOREA
145: BSC SENDO
146: BSC SENDO
147: STA A PORT SEND MARK = RS-232 LOW - 0
148: BSR DELAY
149: BSR DELAY
150: SENDO LDA A #51 SEND SPACE = RS-232 HIGH - 1
151: STA A PORT
152: BSR DELAY

```





```

B165 51 219: PCB $D1 ;
B166 58 220: PCB $D0 ;
B167 70 221: PCB $D0 ;
B168 81 222: PCB $D1 ;
B169 68 223: PCB $D0 ;
B16A 31 224: PCB $D1 ;
B16B 79 225: PCB $D0 ;
B16C 59 226: PCB $D0 ;
B16D 56 227: PCB $D0 ;
B16E 5A 228: PCB $D0 ;
B16F 5A 229: PCB $D0 ;
B170 5A 230: PCB $D0 ;
B171 53 231: PCB $D0 ;
B172 53 232: PCB $D0 ;
B173 53 233: PCB $D0 ;
B174 59 234: PCB $D0 ;
B175 53 235: PCB $D0 ;
B176 5A 236: PCB $D0 ;
B177 56 237: PCB $D0 ;
B178 51 238: PCB $D0 ;
B179 52 239: PCB $D0 ;
B17A 55 240: PCB $D0 ;
B17B 58 241: PCB $D0 ;
B17C 58 242: PCB $D0 ;
B17D 59 243: PCB $D0 ;
B17E 55 244: PCB $D0 ;
B17F 52 245: PCB $D0 ;
B180 52 246: PCB $D0 ;
B181 51 247: PCB $D0 ;
B182 55 248: PCB $D0 ;
B183 52 249: PCB $D0 ;
B184 57 250: PCB $D0 ;
B185 54 251: PCB $D0 ;
B186 57 252: PCB $D0 ;
B187 57 253: PCB $D0 ;
B188 57 254: PCB $D0 ;
B189 58 255: PCB $D0 ;
B18A 73 256: PCB $D0 ;
B18B 7F 257: LOWER CASE ASCII STARTS HERE
B18C 59 258: PCB $D0 ;
B18D 56 259: PCB $D0 ;
B18E 5A 260: PCB $D0 ;
B18F 5A 261: PCB $D0 ;
B190 5A 262: PCB $D0 ;
B191 53 263: PCB $D0 ;
B192 53 264: PCB $D0 ;
B193 56 265: PCB $D0 ;
B194 59 266: PCB $D0 ;
B195 53 267: PCB $D0 ;
B196 5A 268: PCB $D0 ;
B197 56 269: PCB $D0 ;
B198 51 270: PCB $D0 ;
B199 52 271: PCB $D0 ;
B19A 55 272: PCB $D0 ;
B19B 58 273: PCB $D0 ;
B19C 58 274: PCB $D0 ;
B19D 59 275: PCB $D0 ;
B19E 53 276: PCB $D0 ;
B19F 55 277: PCB $D0 ;
B1A0 52 278: PCB $D0 ;
B1A1 51 279: PCB $D0 ;
B1A2 51 280: PCB $D0 ;
B1A3 55 281: PCB $D0 ;
B1A4 57 282: PCB $D0 ;
B1A5 54 283: PCB $D0 ;
B1A6 7F 284: PCB $D0 ;
B1A7 7F 285: PCB $D0 ;
B1A8 7F 286: PCB $D0 ;
B1A9 7F 287: PCB $D0 ;
B1AA 7F 288: PCB $D0 ;
B1AB 7F 289: PCB $D0 ;
B1AC 7F 290: PCB $D0 ;
B1AD 7F 291: PCB $D0 ;
B1AE 7F 292: PCB $D0 ;
B1AF 7F 293: PCB $D0 ;
B1B0 7F 294: PCB $D0 ;
B1B1 7F 295: PCB $D0 ;
B1B2 7F 296: PCB $D0 ;
B1B3 7F 297: PCB $D0 ;
B1B4 7F 298: PCB $D0 ;
B1B5 7F 299: PCB $D0 ;
B1B6 7F 300: PCB $D0 ;
B1B7 7F 301: PCB $D0 ;
B1B8 7F 302: PCB $D0 ;
B1B9 7F 303: PCB $D0 ;
B1BA 7F 304: PCB $D0 ;
B1BB 7F 305: PCB $D0 ;
B1BC 7F 306: PCB $D0 ;
B1BD 7F 307: PCB $D0 ;
B1BE 7F 308: PCB $D0 ;
B1BF 7F 309: PCB $D0 ;
B1C0 7F 310: PCB $D0 ;
B1C1 7F 311: PCB $D0 ;
B1C2 7F 312: PCB $D0 ;
B1C3 7F 313: PCB $D0 ;
B1C4 7F 314: PCB $D0 ;
B1C5 7F 315: PCB $D0 ;
B1C6 7F 316: PCB $D0 ;
B1C7 7F 317: PCB $D0 ;
B1C8 7F 318: PCB $D0 ;
B1C9 7F 319: PCB $D0 ;
B1CA 7F 320: PCB $D0 ;
B1CB 7F 321: PCB $D0 ;
B1CC 7F 322: PCB $D0 ;
B1CD 7F 323: PCB $D0 ;
B1CE 7F 324: PCB $D0 ;
B1CF 7F 325: PCB $D0 ;
B1D0 7F 326: PCB $D0 ;
B1D1 7F 327: PCB $D0 ;
B1D2 7F 328: PCB $D0 ;
B1D3 7F 329: PCB $D0 ;
B1D4 7F 330: PCB $D0 ;
B1D5 7F 331: PCB $D0 ;
B1D6 7F 332: PCB $D0 ;
B1D7 7F 333: PCB $D0 ;
B1D8 7F 334: PCB $D0 ;
B1D9 7F 335: PCB $D0 ;
B1DA 7F 336: PCB $D0 ;
B1DB 7F 337: PCB $D0 ;
B1DC 7F 338: PCB $D0 ;
B1DD 7F 339: PCB $D0 ;
B1DE 7F 340: PCB $D0 ;
B1DF 7F 341: PCB $D0 ;
B1E0 7F 342: PCB $D0 ;
B1E1 7F 343: PCB $D0 ;
B1E2 7F 344: PCB $D0 ;
B1E3 7F 345: PCB $D0 ;
B1E4 7F 346: PCB $D0 ;
B1E5 7F 347: PCB $D0 ;
B1E6 7F 348: PCB $D0 ;
B1E7 7F 349: PCB $D0 ;
B1E8 7F 350: PCB $D0 ;
B1E9 7F 351: PCB $D0 ;
B1EA 7F 352: PCB $D0 ;
B1EB 7F 353: PCB $D0 ;
B1EC 7F 354: PCB $D0 ;
B1ED 7F 355: PCB $D0 ;
B1EE 7F 356: PCB $D0 ;
B1EF 7F 357: PCB $D0 ;
B1F0 7F 358: PCB $D0 ;
B1F1 7F 359: PCB $D0 ;
B1F2 7F 360: PCB $D0 ;
B1F3 7F 361: PCB $D0 ;
B1F4 7F 362: PCB $D0 ;
B1F5 7F 363: PCB $D0 ;
B1F6 7F 364: PCB $D0 ;
B1F7 7F 365: PCB $D0 ;
B1F8 7F 366: PCB $D0 ;
B1F9 7F 367: PCB $D0 ;
B1FA 7F 368: PCB $D0 ;
B1FB 7F 369: PCB $D0 ;
B1FC 7F 370: PCB $D0 ;
B1FD 7F 371: PCB $D0 ;
B1FE 7F 372: PCB $D0 ;
B1FF 7F 373: PCB $D0 ;

```

## HEAD CLEAN - KEY LOCK

The following two programs are being submitted for public use. The first one is for cleaning the heads of 5" drives. It is to be used with one of the cleaning disks on the market. The second program, written by a friend of mine, is very useful if you have small children or animals around the house that like to hit keys on the terminal while you are away from the computer, say to answer the phone or the door. It will lock up the computer until you enter the correct code. It's also useful to include in a

startup routine so the system can't finish booting until it gets the right code. It can also be used with any program that allows you to send commands to Flex such as Basic.

I have been getting Micro 68 since Volume 1, Issue 1 and I treat them like gold. They are invaluable as a reference source that I use at least once a week. Keep up the good work!

Joseph Aulicino  
2014 - 59 th Street  
Bklyn, N.Y. 11204

P.S. The Flex9.equ file contains all Flex equates used with the LIB function of the assembler.

```

1.00=
2.00= THIS IS THE STANDARD FLEX9 LABELS
3.00=
4.00=
5.00=
6.00=MONITOR EQUATES
7.00=
8.00=ACIA EQU $E004
9.00=
10.00=FLEX SYSTEM RAM VARIABLES
11.00=
12.00=LINBUF EQU $C0B0
13.00=TTYPS EQU $CC00
14.00=TTYDEL EQU $CC01
15.00=TTYEOL EQU $CC02
16.00=TTYBP EQU $CC03
17.00=TTYND EQU $CC04
18.00=TTYML EQU $CC05
19.00=TTYTB EQU $CC06
20.00=TTYBE EQU $CC07
21.00=TTYEJ EQU $CC08
22.00=TTYPS EQU $CC09
23.00=TTYEC EQU $CC0A
24.00=SYSDRV EQU $CC0B
25.00=WRKDRV EQU $CC0C
26.00=SYSMTH EQU $CC0E
27.00=SYSDAY EQU $CC0F
28.00=SYSYR EQU $CC10
29.00=LSITRM EQU $CC11
30.00=LCMDTB EQU $CC12
31.00=LINPTR EQU $CC14
32.00=ESCRET EQU $CC16
33.00=CURLCM EQU $CC18
34.00=PRVCHR EQU $CC19
35.00=CURLIN EQU $CC1A
36.00=LDROFF EQU $CC1B
37.00=IFERFB EQU $CC1D
38.00=IFERAD EQU $CC1E
39.00=ERRATP EQU $CC20
40.00=SPECIO EQU $CC21
41.00=OUTSM EQU $CC22
42.00=INSM EQU $CC23
43.00=OUTFIL EQU $CC24
44.00=INFIL EQU $CC26
45.00=CNDFLG EQU $CC2B
46.00=CURLCM EQU $CC29
47.00=REMEMB EQU $CC2B
48.00=ERRVOC EQU $CC2D
49.00=FILEKO EQU $CC2F
50.00=CPUTYP EQU $CC33
51.00=PRTRM EQU $CC35
52.00=PRTRMS EQU $CC37
53.00=PRTRVC EQU $CC39
54.00=PINIT EQU $CC3C
55.00=PCOR EQU $CC3D
56.00=PCOR EQU $CC3E
57.00=
58.00=FLEX USER-CALLABLE ROUTINES
59.00=
60.00=COIDS EQU $C000
61.00=HARRS EQU $C003
62.00=HARRS EQU $C006
63.00=INCH EQU $C009
64.00=INCHZ EQU $C00C
65.00=OUTCH EQU $C00F
66.00=OUTCH2 EQU $C012
67.00=GETCHN EQU $C015
68.00=PUTCHN EQU $C018
69.00=INBUFF EQU $C01B
70.00=PTRMAG EQU $C01E
71.00=CLASS EQU $C021
72.00=PCRLF EQU $C024
73.00=NITCH EQU $C027
74.00=RSTRIO EQU $C02A
75.00=GETFIL EQU $C02B
76.00=LOAD EQU $C030
77.00=SETEXT EQU $C033
78.00=ADDB1 EQU $C036
79.00=OUTDEC EQU $C039
80.00=OUTHE1 EQU $C03C
81.00=RTERR EQU $C03F
82.00=GETHE1 EQU $C042
83.00=OUTADR EQU $C045
84.00=INDEC EQU $C048
85.00=DOCRMD EQU $C04B
86.00=STAT EQU $C04E
87.00=
88.00=FMS ADDRESSES
89.00=
90.00=SYSFCD EQU $C040
91.00=FMSINT EQU $C040
92.00=FMSCLS EQU $C043
93.00=FMS EQU $C046
94.00=MSFCD EQU $C049
95.00=CURFCD EQU $C04B
96.00=VFYFB EQU $C045
97.00=
98.00=END

```

```

*****
* Command to be used with Cleaning disk, *
* will step heads back and forth for *
* approx. 30 sec... *
*****

```

```

*****
* Written By Joseph Mulinco *
*****

```

```
* Syntax: CLEAN,(Drive #)
```

```
* FLEX EQUATE FILE
```

```
*
* THIS IS THE STANDARD FLEX09 LABELS
*
```

```
*
*
* MONITOR EQUATES

```

```
E004 ACIA EQU %E004
```

```
*FLEX SYSTEM RAM VARIABLES
```

```

C080 LINBUF EQU %C080
CC00 TTYBS EQU %CC00
CC01 TTYDEL EQU %CC01
CC02 TTYEOL EQU %CC02
CC03 TTYDP EQU %CC03
CC04 TTYND EQU %CC04
CC05 TTYNL EQU %CC05
CC06 TTYTB EQU %CC06
CC07 TTYBE EQU %CC07
CC08 TTYEJ EQU %CC08
CC09 TTYPS EQU %CC09
CC0A TTYESC EQU %CC0A
CC0B SYSDRV EQU %CC0B
CC0C WRKDRV EQU %CC0C
CC0E SYSMTN EQU %CC0E
CC0F SYSDAY EQU %CC0F
CC10 SYSYR EQU %CC10
CC11 LSTTRM EQU %CC11
CC12 UCNDTB EQU %CC12
CC14 LIMPTR EQU %CC14
CC16 ESECRET EQU %CC16
CC18 CURCHN EQU %CC18
CC19 PRVCHN EQU %CC19
CC1A CURLIN EQU %CC1A
CC1B LDROFF EQU %CC1B
CC1D XFERF6 EQU %CC1D
CC1E XFERAD EQU %CC1E
CC20 EARTYP EQU %CC20
CC21 SPECIO EQU %CC21
CC22 OUTSW EQU %CC22
CC23 INSW EQU %CC23
CC24 OUTFIL EQU %CC24
CC26 INFIL EQU %CC26
CC28 CHDFLE EQU %CC28
CC29 CURCLN EQU %CC29
CC2B MEMEND EQU %CC2B
CC2D ERRVEC EQU %CC2D
CC2F FILEKO EQU %CC2F
CC33 CPUTYP EQU %CC33
CC35 PRYADM EQU %CC35
CC37 PRTLNG EQU %CC37
CC39 PRIDVC EQU %CC39
CC00 PINIT EQU %CC00
CC0B PCHK EQU %CC0B
CC04 POUT EQU %CC04

```

```
*FLEX USER-CALLABLE ROUTINES
```

```

C000 COLDS EQU %C000
C003 WARMS EQU %C003
C006 RENTER EQU %C006
C009 INCH EQU %C009
C00C INCH2 EQU %C00C
C00F OUTCH EQU %C00F
C012 OUTCH2 EQU %C012
C015 GETCHN EQU %C015
C018 PUTCHN EQU %C018

```

```

C01B INBUFF EQU %C01B
C01E PSTRNG EQU %C01E
C021 CLASS EQU %C021
C024 PCRLF EQU %C024
C027 NITCN EQU %C027
C02A RSTRIO EQU %C02A
C02B GETFIL EQU %C02B
C030 LOAD EQU %C030
C033 SETEXT EQU %C033
C036 ADDBI EQU %C036
C039 OUTDEC EQU %C039
C03C OUTHEX EQU %C03C
C03F RPTERR EQU %C03F
C042 GETHEX EQU %C042
C045 OUTADR EQU %C045
C048 INDEC EQU %C048
C04B DCMND EQU %C04B
C04E STAT EQU %C04E

```

```
*FMS ADDRESSES
```

```

C840 SYSFCB EQU %C840
D400 FMSINT EQU %D400
0403 FMSCLS EQU %0403
0406 FMS EQU %0406
0409 BASFCB EQU %0409
040B CURFCB EQU %040B
0435 VRFYFG EQU %0435

```

```
END
```

```
* DC-2 CONTROLLER EQUATES
```

```

E014 DRVREG EQU %E014 Drive Register
E01B COMREG EQU %E01B Command, Status Register
E019 TRKREG EQU %E019 Track Register
E01A SECREG EQU %E01A Sector Register
E01B DATREG EQU %E01B Data Register

```

```
C100 ORG %C100
```

```
C100 20 04 CLEAN BRA CLEAN1 branch over variables
```

```

C102 01 VM FCB 1 version number
C103 0000 TEMP FCB 0 temporary storage
C105 03 COUNT FCB 3 Cleaning cycles approx. (30 sec.)

```

```
* Program start
```

```

C106 B0 C042 CLEAN1 JSR GETHEX Get drive B
C109 25 66 BCS DRVERR Error with drive B ?
C10B BF C103 STX TEMP
C10E F6 C104 LDB TEMP+1 Put drive B in B reg.
C111 20 5E BLT DRVERR Check for valid (0-3)
C113 C1 03 CMPB B3 drive number
C115 2E 5A BGT DRVERR Error ?
C117 1F 9B TFR B,A Construct ASCII character
C119 B0 30 ADDB #0 in A reg. For insertion
C11B 07 C1B4 STA DRVNUM in MESS1
C11E 0E C195 LDX #MESS1 Insert disk message
C121 B0 C01E JSR PSTRNG Print message

```

```

C124 B0 C04E KEYPRS JSR STAT Check if Key Pressed
C127 27 F0 BEQ KEYPRS
C129 70 E018 TST COMREG Start drive motor
C12C F7 E014 STB DRVREG of selected drive
C12F B0 C024 JSR PCRLF Print CR/LF
C132 0E C1C7 LDX #MESS2 Point to running message
C135 B0 C01E JSR PSTRNG Print message

```

```
* Restore heads
```

```

C13B B6 0B RESTOR LDA #000 Restore (16=00) command
C13A B7 E010 STA CURREG Execute command
C13D C6 04 LDB #4 Delay before checking
C13F 5A WAIT DECB Status register
C140 26 F0 BNE WAIT
C142 B0 20 JSR READY Check for ready
C144 B6 C105 LDA COUNT Get cycle count
C147 4A DECA Decrement count
C14B B7 C105 STA COUNT Store count

```



```

C14B 27 2D      BEB  EXIT  Is cleaning finished?

* Step heads in

C14D 86 5D      STEPIN LDA 055B Step heads in command
C14F B7 E01B    STA COMREG Execute command
C152 9E 0000    LDI 00 Delay .5sec
C155 30 IF      DLY LEAI -1,X between head steps
C157 26 FC      BNE DLY
C159 0D 09      BSR READY Check for Ready
C15B 86 E019    LDA TRKREG Have we reached
C15E 01 22      CMPA 0022 maximum track
C160 26 ED      BNE STEPIN yet ?
C162 20 04      BRA RESTOR Return for next cycle

```

\* Check status

```

C164 F6 E01B    READY LDR COMREG Wait for BUSY Status
C167 C5 01      BITD 01 bit to be cleared
C169 26 F9      BNE READY
C16B 0D C04E    JSR STAT Check for ABORT
C16E 26 0A      BNE EXIT Do we abort cleaning ?
C170 39         RTS

```

\* Print error messages

```

C171 0E C1B5    DVERR LDI 0ERRMSG Point to error message
C174 0D C024    JSR PCRLF Print CRLF
C177 0D C01E    JSR PSTMSG Print message

```

\* Clean up & Exit

```

C17A 7F E01B    EXIT CLR COMREG Clear command register
C17D 06 80      LDA 0000 Deselect drive command
C17F 07 E014    STA DRVREG Execute deselect
C182 7E C003    JMP WARMS Go back to FLEX

```

\* Messages

```

C185 49 6E 76 61 ERRMSG FCC 'Invalid Drive 0'
C189 6C 69 64 20
C18B 44 72 69 76
C191 65 20 23
C194 04         FCB 4
C195 49 6E 73 65 MESS1 FCC 'Insert Cleaning Disk in Drive 0'
C199 72 74 20 43
C19D 6C 65 61 6E
C1A1 69 6E 67 20
C1A5 44 69 73 6D
C1A9 20 69 6E 20
C1AD 44 72 69 76
C1B1 65 20 23
C1B4 00         DRVMUM FCB 0
C1B5 20 61 6E 64 FCC ' and Press Return'
C1B9 20 50 72 65
C1BD 73 73 20 52
C1C1 65 74 73 72
C1C5 6E
C1C6 04         FCB 4
C1C7 43 6C 65 61 MESS2 FCC 'Cleaning in Progress - Press '
C1CB 6E 69 6E 67
C1CF 20 69 6E 20
C1D3 50 72 6F 67
C1D7 72 65 73 73
C1DB 20 28 20 50
C1DF 72 65 73 73
C1E3 20
C1E4 52 65 74 75 FCC 'Return to Abort!'
C1E8 72 6E 20 74
C1EC 6F 20 41 62
C1F0 6F 72 74 21
C1F4 04         FCB 4
                     END CLEAN

```

\* LOCK OUT UNAUTHORIZED USERS

```

*
* THIS IS THE STANDARD FLE109 LABELS
*
*
* MONITOR EQUATES

```

E004 ACIA EQU 0E004

\* FLEX SYSTEM RAM VARIABLES

CC00 LINBUF EQU 0C080  
 CC01 TTYDS EQU 0CC00  
 CC02 TTYDEL EQU 0CC01  
 CC03 TTYEOL EQU 0CC02  
 CC04 TTYDP EQU 0CC03  
 CC05 TTYMO EQU 0CC04  
 CC06 TTYML EQU 0CC05  
 CC07 TTYTD EQU 0CC06  
 CC08 TTYBE EQU 0CC07  
 CC09 TTYEJ EQU 0CC08  
 CC0A TTYPS EQU 0CC09  
 CC0B TTYESC EQU 0CC0A  
 CC0C SYSDRV EQU 0CC0B  
 CC0D WAKDRV EQU 0CC0C  
 CC0E SYSMTH EQU 0CC0E  
 CC0F SYSDAY EQU 0CC0F  
 CC10 SYSDR EQU 0CC10  
 CC11 LSTTAM EQU 0CC11

\* FLEX USER-CALLABLE ROUTINES

CC12 UCHDTB EQU 0CC12  
 CC14 LINPTR EQU 0CC14  
 CC16 ESCRET EQU 0CC16  
 CC1B CURCHR EQU 0CC1B  
 CC19 PRVCHR EQU 0CC19  
 CC1A CURLIN EQU 0CC1A  
 CC1B LDRDFF EQU 0CC1B  
 CC1D XFERF6 EQU 0CC1D  
 CC1E XFERAD EQU 0CC1E  
 CC20 ERATYP EQU 0CC20  
 CC21 SPECIO EQU 0CC21  
 CC22 OUTSM EQU 0CC22  
 CC23 TNSM EQU 0CC23  
 CC24 OUTFIL EQU 0CC24  
 CC26 INFIL EQU 0CC26  
 CC2B CHNPL6 EQU 0CC2B  
 CC29 CURCLN EQU 0CC29  
 CC2D MEMEND EQU 0CC2D  
 CC2B ERRVEC EQU 0CC2B  
 CC2F FILEKO EQU 0CC2F  
 CC33 CPUPTYP EQU 0CC33  
 CC35 PRTAGR EQU 0CC35  
 CC37 PRTCLG EQU 0CC37  
 CC39 PRTOVC EQU 0CC39  
 CC40 FINIT EQU 0CC40  
 CC4B PCMK EQU 0CC4B  
 CC4E POUT EQU 0CC4E  
 CD00 COLDS EQU 0CD00  
 CD03 WARMS EQU 0CD03  
 CD06 RENTER EQU 0CD06  
 CD09 TNCX EQU 0CD09  
 CD0C INCM2 EQU 0CD0C  
 CD0F OUTCH EQU 0CD0F  
 CD12 OUTCH2 EQU 0CD12  
 CD15 GETCHM EQU 0CD15  
 CD1B PUTCHR EQU 0CD1B  
 CD1D INBUFF EQU 0CD1D  
 CD1E PSTMSG EQU 0CD1E  
 CD21 CLASS EQU 0CD21  
 CD24 PCRLF EQU 0CD24  
 CD27 NITC EQU 0CD27  
 CD2A PSTRIO EQU 0CD2A  
 CD2D GETFIL EQU 0CD2D  
 CD30 LOAD EQU 0CD30  
 CD33 SETEXT EQU 0CD33  
 CD36 ADDBI EQU 0CD36  
 CD39 OUTDEC EQU 0CD39  
 CD3C OUTHEX EQU 0CD3C  
 CD3F RPTERR EQU 0CD3F  
 CD42 SETHEX EQU 0CD42  
 CD45 OUTADR EQU 0CD45  
 CD4B INDEC EQU 0CD4B  
 CD4B DCCMD EQU 0CD4B  
 CD4E STAT EQU 0CD4E

\* FMS ADDRESSES

0400 SYSFCB EQU 0400  
 0406 FMSINT EQU 0406  
 0403 FMSCLS EQU 0403  
 0406 FMS EQU 0406  
 0409 BASFCB EQU 0409  
 040B CURFCB EQU 040B  
 0435 VRFYFG EQU 0435

END

\* THIS PROGRAM WILL ALLOW YOU TO LOCK UP  
 \* THE COMPUTER UNTIL THE CORRECT CODE  
 \* (WHICH YOU INSERT AT ASSEMBLY TIME)  
 \* IS ENTERED IN THE ALLOTTED TIME.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Written By MR. ED. DeLAUTER \*  
 \*\*\*\*\* June 1983 \*\*\*\*\*

\* SYNTAX: LOCK

```

C100          ORG      0C100

C100 20 63     STARTA  BRA      START

C102 01          FCB      1          Version 0

C103 30 33 37 32 CODE  FCC      '0372687' Your code consists 21 characters
C107 36 38 37
C10A 00          FCB      000

C10B 10          BLANKS  FCB      010      HOME UP CURSOR
C10C 16          FCB      016      ERASE TO END OF PAGE
C10D 1E 15          FCB      01E,015  SUPPRESS CURSOR DISPLAY
C10F 04          FCB      004
C110 1C 12          CLRSKR FCB      01C,012  SET CRT FORMAT II
C112 1E 14          FCB      01E,014  SET UNDERLINE CURSOR
C114 1E 03          FCB      01E,003  SET BLINKING CURSOR
C116 04          FCB      004

C117 49 4E 50 55  TIT1  FCC      'INPUT YOUR USER CODE'
C118 54 20 59 4F
C11F 55 52 20 53
C123 53 45 52 20
C127 43 4F 44 45
C12B 04          FCB      004
C12C 54 48 45 20  TIT2  FCC      'THE CODE YOU ENTERED IS INVALID'
C130 43 4F 44 45
C134 20 59 4F 55
C138 20 45 4E 54
C13C 45 52 45 44
C140 20 49 53 20
C144 49 4E 56 41
C148 4C 49 44
C14B 04          FCB      004
  
```

```

C14C          ICODE  RWB      24
C164          IOFMP  RWB      1          TEMP STORAGE FOR I/O FLAG
  
```

\*PROGRAM STARTS HERE

```

C165 0E C100     START  LDZ      0BLKSCR  Blank screen
C168 00 6A          BSR      OUTCOD
C16A 00 C04E     START3 JSR      STAT      Wait for Key Stroke
C16D 27 06          BEQ      START4      then proceed...
C16F A0 9F D3E3   JSR      (003E51
C173 20 F3          BRA      START3
C175 A0 9F D3E3   START4 JSR      (003E51  Throw away input Character
C179 0E C110          LDZ      0CLRSCR  Clear (restore) Terminal
C17C 00 56          BSR      OUTCOD
C17E 0E C117     START2 LDZ      0TIT1   Enter Code message
C181 00 51          BSR      OUTCOD      Output message, CrLf, CrLf
C183 00 C024     JSR      PCRLF
C186 00 C024     JSR      PCRLF
C189 20 06          BRA      IPC        Goto Input Code Subroutine
C18B 00 C024     START1 JSR      PCRLF  Print CrLf & Return to FLET
C18E 7E C003     JMP      WARMPS
  
```

\*INPUT PASS CODE

```

C191 10BE C14C   IPC      LDY      0ICODE
C195 C4 00       IPC2     LDZ      00      Loop count 2
C197 0E 6000     IPC4     LDZ      006000  Loop count 1
C19A 00 C04E     IPC1     JSR      STAT      Wait for Key Stroke
C19D 26 00          BNE      IPC3
C19F 30 1F          LEA3    -1,X          Decrement Loop count 1
C1A1 26 F7          BNE      IPC1
C1A3 00 54          BSR      BELL      Ring bell if loop 1 counts to zero
C1A5 5A          DECB      0PC4        Decrement Loop count 2
C1A6 26 EF          BNE      IPC4
C1A8 20 00          BRA      START      Re-start if loop 2 counts to zero
C1AA A0 9F D3E3   IPC3    JSR      (003E51  Get input character
C1AE A7 A0          STA      0Y+        Store in ICODE buffer
C1B0 100C C161     CMPY    0ICODE+21  Check for buffer overflow
C1B4 27 2E          BEQ      0ERROR
C1B6 01 00          CMPA    0000
C1B8 27 07          BEQ      IPC5
  
```

```

C1BA 06 58          LDA      0Y+        Output ASCII '1' to terminal
C1BC 0D C00F       JSR      0OUTCH
C1BF 20 04          BRA      IPC2
C1C1 0E C103       IPC5    LDZ      0BCODE  Set-up pointers.
C1C4 10BE C14C     LDY      0ICODE
C1C6 A6 00          IPC6    LDA      0Y+        Compare codes, Check for equal
C1CA A1 A0          CMPA    0Y+
C1CC 26 16          BNE      0ERROR      If they don't match goto ERROR
C1CE 81 00          CMPA    0000
C1D0 27 09          BEQ      0START1
C1D2 20 F4          BRA      IPC6
  
```

\*OUTPUT CODE FOR SETUP

```

C1D4 A6 00          OUTCOD LDA      0Y+        Get character for output
C1D6 81 04          CMPA    0004
C1D8 27 09          BEQ      0OCS1      Branch if EOL (04)
C1DA 01 00          CMPA    0000
C1DC 27 05          BEQ      0OCS1      Branch if CA (00)
C1DE 00 C00F       JSR      0OUTCH  Output char. in A reg.
C1E1 20 F1          BRA      0OUTCOD  Continue till done
C1E3 39          OCS1     RTS
  
```

\*ERROR HANDLING ROUTINE

```

C1E4 00 C024       ERROR JSR      0PCRLF  Wrong Code has been input
C1E7 00 C024       JSR      0PCRLF      print error message, Ring bell
C1EA 0E C12C       LDZ      0TIT2      and branch to enter code again...
C1ED 00 E3          BSR      0OUTCOD
C1EF 00 C024       JSR      0PCRLF
C1F2 00 C024       JSR      0PCRLF
C1F5 00 02          BSR      0BELL
C1F7 20 05          BRA      0START2
  
```

\*RING BELL

```

C1F9 B6 07          BELL   LDA      0007      Ring Bell
C1FB 7E C00F       JMP      0OUTCH
                                END      STARTA
  
```

0 ERROR(S) DETECTED

## PL/9 - A BASIC COMPARED

Comparison of Windrush PL/9 and Microware A/BASIC  
 for Dedicated Software Development on the MC6809

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### INTRODUCTION

PL/9 and A/BASIC are programming systems designed primarily for dedicated, special purpose, applications which would normally be developed using assembler language.

The PL/9 system is composed of the following three parts, which are coreident in memory during program development.

- a line editor,
- a compiler,
- a symbolic debugger.

The A/BASIC system is composed of only a compiler.

This article compares PL/9 and A/BASIC in terms of their use in such applications as dedicated development in which speed and size are more important factors than language compatibility and ease of development, although these factors are always desirable. The discussion will concentrate on the PL/9 compiler language itself, mentioning the PL/9 editor and debugger only briefly.

### LANGUAGE COMPARISONS

#### GENERAL

The PL/9 language is a not-very-high-level language, more similar to "C" than it is to BASIC. WINDRUSH claims that PL/9 is a high-level language, similar to PL/M or PASCAL; however, it has no string nor input/output constructs and cannot therefore be logically classified as a high-level language. It supports

## ARITHMETIC EXPRESSIONS

PL/9 evaluates arithmetic expressions in a left to right fashion, without regard to operator precedence, unlike most other languages. This trait may cause major problems for those already familiar with BASIC. However, PL/9 honors parentheses to force other orders of evaluation. PL/9 supports the following operators in top to bottom (but not left to right) hierarchical order:

1. {, }
2. functions, unary -, pointer .
3. \*, /, +, -, AND, OR, =, <, >, <=, >=, <=, >=, =

PL/9 provides the pre-defined constants TRUE and FALSE and variables ACCA, ACCB, ACCD, CCR, and MEM for the convenience of the user. TRUE has value of -1 and FALSE has value of 0. ACCA, ACCB, ACCD, and CCR represent the 6809 A, B, D, and CC registers, respectively. MEM is a BYTE array based at zero, with size 65536, so all of memory may be addressed directly as if it were an array.

A/BASIC evaluates arithmetic expressions with regard to operator precedence, as is common with most other languages. It supports the following operators in top to bottom (but not left to right) hierarchical order:

1. {, }
2. functions
3. -, unary -
4. \*, /, +, -
5. \*, /
6. +, -, string +
7. =, <, >, <=, >=, <=, >=, =

## INPUT/OUTPUT

A/BASIC has syntactical elements defining access to the terminal and disk files, along with the scanners and number converters required to get data in and out of the program to those devices. PL/9 has no syntactical elements defining input/output to any devices, nor does it have the support functions to support the number conversion. Thus, A/BASIC input/output will be substantially easier to use for those applications involving terminal and disk files. However, for other applications, both languages have constructs which support direct access to memory and the calling of external and internal machine language routines to assist in the support of other devices.

Both A/BASIC and PL/9 support the GEN statement, which allows the direct insertion of machine language into the program. PL/9 requires that GEN statements be grouped into ASMPROCs, which are otherwise similar in declaration to PROCEDURES. In an ASMPROC, it is not necessary to name the parameters, the declaration of local variables is not allowed, and the type of the ASMPROC, if any, must be explicitly stated following a colon following the parameter list, if any.

A/BASIC allows GEN statements at any point which any other statement may appear. PL/9 GEN statements generate one byte per entry, whereas A/BASIC GEN statements generate two bytes per entry if the constant value is greater than 255 and one byte otherwise. The PL/9 companion assembler, MACE, separately available from Windrush, has an option which allows it to generate the ASMPROC declarations and GEN statements from assembler language input.

PL/9 supplies the MEM array automatically. It is a BYTE array of 65536 elements, representing all of memory. Thus any location in the address space may be inspected and modified. A similar array could be declared in A/BASIC by the user, or the A/BASIC PEEK function or POKE statement could be used for similar purposes.

Both languages also support the declaration of variables at named specific addresses in memory, and this could be used to logically inspect and modify those locations. For example, a PIA at \$E030 could be pointed to in an A/BASIC program as follows:

```
BASZ=$E011
DIM PS(4)
```

and the same PIA could be pointed to in a PL/9 program as follows:

```
AT $E030: BYTE PIA(4)
```

Then PS[n] and PIA(n) would access the n-th internal PIA register, where n has a value of 0, 1, 2, or 3.

Neither language has an absolute advantage over the other in terms of supporting special devices, although A/BASIC has a decided advantage over PL/9 in terms of support for terminal and disk access, at least when generating code to run under control of an operating system such as FLEX or OS/9.

## DEBUGGING AIDS

The A/BASIC compiler provides the normal careful checking of the syntax of an A/BASIC program provided by most other BASIC compilers. However, it does not provide the careful run-time checking of the execution of an A/BASIC program which users of many BASIC interpreters have come to expect, nor does it provide such debugging aids as line or variable traces or the setting of breakpoints at specified lines. The usual method of modifying a program to assist in debugging it is to add PRINT statements to indicate the values of critical variables at critical points.

The PL/9 system consists of the PL/9 compiler, a line editor, and a symbolic debugger, all of which are co-resident in memory simultaneously. The generated object program may be placed into memory by the compiler for immediate debugging or execution or on disk for later execution. The editor may be used to create or modify PL/9 or other programs and data files. PL/9 programs may be checked for syntax and certain run-time errors and easily corrected, without leaving the PL/9 system. The compiler saves the names and locations of the variables and inserts calls to the symbolic debugger in the PL/9 program when it is invoked with the symbolic debugger option. Then, when the program is executed under control of the symbolic debugger, it can be single-stepped, breakpointed, traced, and its variables may be printed by name. The debugging code is not inserted into the PL/9 library portion of the program, only into the user portion of the program. It cannot catch all classes of errors, and some, such as invalid subscripts, may crash the entire system; nevertheless, it is very useful as a debugging tool.

## SUMMARY

This article has compared the Windrush PL/9 and Microware A/BASIC systems in terms of development of dedicated systems. The PL/9 system has the advantages of supporting a structured language and having a co-resident editor and symbolic debugger. The A/BASIC system has the advantage of supporting terminal and disk files and string manipulation within the syntax of the language.

PL/9 is available from Windrush Micro Systems for \$198.00, and MACE is available for \$98.00. A/BASIC is available from Frank Hogg Laboratory for \$150.00.

## APPENDIX 1: SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS CHARTS

The following tables present the syntax and semantics for each of the languages A/BASIC and PL/9. The tables are divided into functions, operators, and statements. The following notation is used in the tables:

b	byte expression
B	byte constant
e	numeric or string expression
L	list of variables and string variables
n	numeric expression
N	numeric constant
S	statement
a\$	string expression
S\$	string constant
v	variable
v\$	string variable
x	numeric or Boolean expression
[ ]	optional
...	repeated

The first column classifies the syntactic token on the line. The second column contains the name of the function, operator, or statement. The third column contains the parameters of the function, operator, or statement. The next one or more lines contain the semantics associated with each function, operator, or statement.

### A/BASIC SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS

TYPE	NAME	PARAMETERS	SEMANTICS
function	ABS	(n)	absolute value of n
function	ASC	(a\$)	numeric value of first character of a\$
function	BUFS		I/O buffer
function	CHR\$	(n)	ASCII character corresponding to n
function	EOF	(#n)	test file n for end of file condition
function	ERR		error number
function	FILESIZ	(#n)	number of sectors in file n
function	LEFT\$	(a\$,n)	string representing n characters starting at left of a\$
function	LEN	(a\$)	length in bytes of a\$
function	MID\$	(a\$,n[,n])	string representing n2 (or remaining) characters starting at n1
function	PEEK	(n)	8-bit numeric value at address n
function	POS		character position in print buffer
function	RIGHT\$	(a\$,n)	string representing n characters at the end of a\$
function	RND	[(n)]	random number between 0 and 32767
function	STATUS	(#n)	status of file n
function	STR\$	(n)	string conversion of numeric n
function	SUBSTR	(a\$,a\$,n)	first occurrence of a1\$ in a2\$ (or zero if not found)
function	SWAP	(n)	swapped bytes of 16-bit value n



function TAB (n) advance print buffer pointer to position n

function TRMS (s\$) argument s\$ without trailing spaces

function VAL (s\$) numeric conversion of string s\$

operator | binary logical inclusive or (l|r)

operator = SS" unary string constant definition

operator # unary logical negation (l|r)

operator \$ unary hexadecimal constant definition

operator % binary logical exclusive or (l|r)

operator & binary logical and (l|r)

operator ( unary expression group start

operator (# unary file number group start

operator ) unary expression group end

operator \* binary numeric multiply (l\*r)

operator + binary numeric addition (l+r),  
binary string concatenation (l\$+r\$),  
unary numeric positive (+r)

operator , binary subscript separator,  
binary parameter separator,  
binary PRINT punctuation (tab),  
unary PRINT punctuation (CR/LF)

operator - binary numeric subtraction (l-r),  
unary numeric negation (-r)

operator / binary numeric division (l/r)

operator ! binary separate statements on line

operator : binary PRINT punctuation (no tab),  
unary PRINT punctuation (no CR/LF)

operator < binary numeric less (l<r),  
binary string less (l\$<r\$)

operator <= binary numeric not greater (l<=r),  
binary string not greater (l\$<=r\$)

operator <> binary numeric not equal (l<>r),  
binary string not equal (l\$<>r\$)

operator = binary numeric equal (l=r),  
binary string equal (l\$=r\$),  
binary numeric assignment (l=r),  
binary string assignment (l\$=r\$)

operator >= binary numeric not greater (l<=r),  
binary string not greater (l\$<=r\$)

operator >= binary numeric not less (l>=r),  
binary string not less (l\$>=r\$)

operator > binary numeric greater (l>r),  
binary string greater (l\$>r\$)

operator >= binary numeric not less (l>=r),  
binary string not less (l\$>=r\$)

statement \* ... introduce remark (column 1)

statement ... introduce remark (column 1)

statement BASIC (=)n set ram assignment address to n.

statement CALL n call machine language subroutine at address n

statement CHAIN s\$ branch to label v

statement IF x THEN S [ELSE S] perform statement S1 if expression x true; otherwise perform statement S2

statement INCLUDE S\$ compile file S\$ as part of PL/9 program

statement JUMP M branch to machine language subroutine at address M

statement ORIGIN =M set program assignment address to M

statement PROCEDURE ... introduce PL/9 subroutine

statement v{(n)} =n assign expression on right of equal to variable on left

statement REPEAT S FOREVER repeat statement S endlessly

statement REPEAT S UNTIL x repeat statement S until x is true

statement RETURN [n] terminate execution of PROCEDURE and optionally returns value and type represented by n

statement STACK =M set stack assignment address to M

statement STACK = set stack assignment address to

load and run BASIC program named s\$

statement CLOSE 0n[,0n[,...]] close specified files n1, n2, ...

statement CLOSE FILES close all files

statement CREATE 0n,s\$ create file n with name s\$

statement DIM v{(n,n1)[,...]} declare dimensioned variables

statement DIM v{(n,n1)[,...]} declare string variables with length n1 or string arrays of dimension n1, length n2

statement DISPLAY [e[,]][e1[,]][,...] output strings and control characters to terminal

statement END terminate execution

statement EXPAND expand memory space

statement FOR v=n TO n [STEP n] create loop with control variable v set initially to n1, terminal condition of v crossing n2, step size n3 (or 1)

statement GEN N[,N[,...]] insert specified values into program

statement GOSUB N call subroutine starting at line N

statement GOTO N branch to line N

statement IF = GOSUB N call subroutine starting at line N if expression x true

statement IF x THEN N branch to line N if expression x true

statement IF x THEN S [ELSE S] perform statement S1 if expression x true; otherwise perform statement S2

statement INPUT L input list L from terminal

statement KILL s\$ delete file named s\$

statement [LET] BUPS=s\$ replace contents of I/O buffer with string expression to right of equal

statement [LET] v{(n)}=s\$ assign expression on right of equal to variable on left

statement [LET] v{(n,n1)}=n assign expression on right of equal to variable on left

statement NAME S\$ set module name to S\$

statement NEXT v initiate next iteration for FOR loop with control variable v

statement ON ERROR GOTO [N] set trap at line N for error handling or terminate error handling trap

statement ON MOVN GOTO N branch to line N if no overflow

statement ON OVR GOTO N branch to line N if overflow

statement ON n GOSUB N[,N[,...]] call subroutine at n-th line number N

statement ON n GOTO M[,M[,...]] branch to n-th line number N

statement OPEN 0n,s\$ open file n1 with name s\$

statement OPT L provide compile options

statement ORO (=)n set program address to n

statement PAG continue compiler listing on next page

statement POKE (n)=n store 8-bit value n2 at address n1

statement PRINT [e[,]][e1[,]][,...] output characters to terminal

statement READ 0n,L read data into list L from sequential file n

statement REM introduce remark

statement RESTORE 0n[,0n[,...]] rewind files n1, n2, ... and reopen for input

statement RETURN return from most recent active GOSUB

statement RREAD 0n,n,L read data into list L from random file n1 record n2

statement RWRITE 0n,n,L write data from list L into random file n1 record n2

statement SCRATCH 0n[,0n[,...]] rewind files n1, n2, ... and reopen for output

statement SHELL s\$ pass message s\$ to operating system

statement STACK [=]n set initial stack pointer to address n

statement STOP terminate program execution

statement WRITE 0n,L write data from list L into sequential file n

# PL/9 SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS

TYPE	NAME	PARAMETERS	SEMANTICS
function	ACCA		contents of A register
function	ACCB		contents of B register
function	ACCD		contents of D register
function	BTE	(n)	byte equivalent of integer n
function	CCR		contents of CC register
function	EXTEND	(n)	lab of n sign-extended to first byte
function	INTEGER	(b)	integer equivalent of byte b
function	MEM	(n)	contents of address n
function	NOT	(n)	ones-complement of n
function	SWAP	(n)	swapped bytes of 16-bit value n
operator	'	B	unary byte constant definition
operator	(		unary expression group start
operator	)		unary expression group end
operator	*		binary multiply (l*r)
operator	+		binary addition (l+r), unary positive (+r)
operator	-		binary subtraction (l-r), unary negation (-r)
operator	.	v	unary pointer to v
operator	/		binary division (l/r)
operator	:		binary separate declarations
operator	:		binary separate statements
operator	<		binary less (l<r)
operator	<=		binary not greater (l<=r)
operator	<>		binary not equal (l<>r)
operator	=		binary equal (l=r)
operator	>		binary greater (l>r)
operator	>=		binary not less (l>=r)
statement	/*	...	Introduce remark
statement	ACCA	=n	set contents of A register to n
statement	ACCB	=n	set contents of B register to n
statement	ACCD	=n	set contents of D register to n
statement	ASMPROC		introduces machine language PROCEDURE
statement	AT	N:	set variable assignment address to N
statement	BEGIN	[S:[S:[...]]] END	group statements into one unit
statement	BREAK		terminate WHILE or REPEAT statement
statement	CALL	N	call machine language subroutine at address N
statement	CCR	=n	set contents of CC register to n
statement	CONSTANT	v=N[,v=N[,...]]	Introduce list of constants
statement	END		terminate statement group started with BEGIN
statement	ENDPROC	[n]	end PROCEDURE and optionally returns value and type represented by n
statement	GEN	N[,N[,...]]	insert specified values into program
statement	GLOBAL	...	introduce declaration of global variables
statement	GOTO	v	
statement	WHILE	x S	current program assignment address while x is true repeat statement S

## APPENDIX 2: A/BASIC AND PL/9 EXAMPLES

Following are two examples representing (almost) the same algorithm programmed in each of the languages A/BASIC and PL/9.

### A/BASIC EXAMPLE

```
0100 REM A/BASIC VERSION OF ERATOSTHENES SIEVE
0200 REM
0300 ORO=$A000
```

```
0400 STACK=$9FFF
0500 REM
0600 DIM F(255)
0700 DISPLAY $07:
0800 S=255
0900 FOR M=1 TO 10
1000 C=0
1100 FOR I=1 TO S:IF(I)=1:NEXT I
1200 K=4
1300 L=0
1400 FOR J=1 TO S
1500 IF F(I)=0 THEN 2000
1600 P=I+I+1
1700 C=C+1
1800 PRINT P;" ";
1900 IF L=0 THEN FOR J=K TO S STEP P:IF(J)=0:NE T J
2000 IF L=1 THEN 2300
2100 K=K+I+I+1+1+4
2200 IF K>S THEN L=1
2300 NEXT I
2400 NEXT M
2500 DISPLAY $07
2600 STOP
2700 END
```

### PL/9 EXAMPLE

```
/* PL/9 VERSION OF ERATOSTHENES SIEVE */

ORIGIN=$A000:
STACK=:;

INCLUDE IOSUBS.LIB:

ASMPROC OUTNUM (INTEGER): /* OUTPUT NUMBER TO TERMINAL */
GEN $AE,$E2,$C6,$FF,$7E,$CD,$39:

PROCEDURE SIEVE:
INTEGER SIZE,PRIME,COUNT,LOOPS,I,J,K:
BYTE FLAGS(8192),LAST:
PUTCHAR($07): /* BEEP FOR SIGNON */
SIZE=8191:
LOOPS=1:
WHILE LOOPS<=10 BEGIN /* LOOP 10 TIMES */
  LOOPS=LOOPS+1:
  COUNT=0:
  I=0:
  WHILE I<=SIZE BEGIN FLAGS(I)=TRUE: I=I+1: END:
  K=4:
  LAST=FALSE:
  I=1:
  WHILE I<=SIZE BEGIN
    IF FLAGS(I) THEN BEGIN
      PRIME=I+I+1:
      COUNT=COUNT+1:
      OUTNUM(.PRIME):
      IF NOT(LAST) THEN BEGIN
        J=K:
        WHILE J<=SIZE BEGIN FLAGS(J)=FALSE: J=J+PRIME: END:
      END:
      IF NOT(LAST) THEN BEGIN
        K=K+I+I+I+1+4:
        IF K>SIZE THEN LAST=TRUE:
      END:
      I=I+1:
    END:
  END:
  PUTCHAR($07): /* BEEP FOR SIGNDFF */
ENDPROC:
```

## BIT BUCKET

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# '68'

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Hixson, Tennessee 37343

October 24, 1983

Due to a typesetting error, the price of the S68U/08-CPU for L.S.I. Enterprises (Nov. 83, page 67) is incorrect. The correct price for the S68U/08-CPU is \$649.95.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Further information contact:  
R. Joanne Kaplan  
513-279-8844

#### MICROWARE BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW FACILITY

Saturday October 9, 1981 is a date that will go down in 6809 microprocessor history. The staff of Microware held an informal ground breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of a new era for the company.

A 7500 square foot building, designed with special software development labs, demonstration areas and business offices is now under construction in Des Moines, Iowa, with a planned occupancy of March, 1984.

The first shovel of dirt was dug by Ken Kaplan, President of Microware, to usher in the "coming of age" of the Company. The programming staff took the honors of the second shovel followed by the marketing staff. Invited guests included members of the banking and real estate communities of Des Moines who assisted in the planning and financing.

"This marks a landmark in the history of Microware. The growth of the company has been on the up and up over the last two years and this building is the proof that we intend to keep up the momentum of bigger and better things," Ken Kaplan stated as the champagne glasses were lifted.



WESTCHESTER Applied Business Systems  
Post Office Box 187  
Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510

#### PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT Effective October 1, 1983

##### XDMS V1.1 and XDMS+

XDMS V1.1 is the first major revision to the XDMS Data Management System. This version incorporates several enhancements designed to add processing flexibility within the GENERATE process control statements. For example, it is now possible to do rate table lookups (eg; tax, FICA, etc) on ranges of values and incorporate the found values in subsequent calculations. Immediate commands have been added to permit in-process file deletes or purge, terminal messages and prompts, and optional escape from the process. GENERATE error handling is now non-fatal, allowing interactive users to correct or reenter instructions without reloading the program. XDMS V1.1 replaces V1.0 effective October 1, and is available for \$179.95. Upgrades for registered XDMS V1.0 users is \$25.00.

XDMS+ adds to V1.1 a set of useful utilities. SET permits display or change of the XDMS margin, width, page, ejects, backspace, end-of-line, delete, return echo, escape, reprint, null count, pause, backup, work drive and date values. PLOT produces horizontal bar, symbol or time charts. COPYDEF defines new files with existing formats. REVISE permits modification of file field definitions. OUTPUT dumps a .DMS file in tabular ASCII format. INPUT loads a .DMS file from dump output or user generated text. FORM displays the print form of a .DMS file. SIZE lists the number of file records and sectors. PURGE erases the data portion of a .DMS file. FILES displays a file name matrix for a given file extent. More to be added.

XDMS+ is available for \$249.95. Registered XDMS V1.0 users may upgrade to XDMS+ for \$50.00. Shipping on all orders is \$2.50 domestic, \$7.50 foreign. Orders may be placed with Southeast Media on 800-338-6800.



Universal Data Systems

MOTOROLA INC.  
COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

**NEWS**

MORE INFORMATION:  
WILLIAM SCHLOSSER  
Marketing Manager

Huntsville, Alabama. **UNIVERSAL DATA SYSTEMS**, (Huntsville, AL), a subsidiary of Motorola, Inc. (Information Systems Group), now offers high-speed, over-the-telephone computer communications at a very competitive price. The Universal Data Systems model UDS 212LP 1200 baud modem is available for \$449 (suggested U.S. resale) at participating Universal Data Systems dealers.

The high speed of the UDS 212LP means less demand on computer time, lower line charges and other economies. This applies to use in communications between computers, dial-up information services, time-sharing systems, computer bulletin boards and so on.

The UDS 212LP has taken advantage of advances in engineering technology to greatly reduce its power requirements. Since it is powered entirely by the telephone line itself, the need for bulky, heat-producing power supplies or modules is eliminated. The result is a sleek, low-profile unit that rests comfortably under a telephone.

Universal Data Systems is located at 5000 Bradford Drive, Huntsville, Alabama, 35895. Telephone (205)837-8100.

##### TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS: UDS 212LP

The UDS 212LP offers 1200 bps differentially coherent phase shift keyed (PSK) communications under Bell 212 protocol. It is intended for use over two-wire direct-distance dial (DDD) public switched telephone networks.

**Controls and indicators:** A talk/data switch controls whether a telephone or modem is connected to the telephone line and an originate/answer switch, which selects the appropriate data exchange operating mode. A front panel light indicates when the modem is off-hook.

**Dimensions:** 9-1/8 in. W by 9-1/2 in. D by 1-1/8 in. H.

**Weight:** 15 oz.

UDS modem functions are available in circuit-card form for OEM applications; UDS produces more integral modem cards for the data communications market than any other manufacturer — more than a half million modems during the past ten years.

Modems manufactured by Universal Data Systems are warranted to perform as specified for an entire year, assuming proper application and no physical or electrical abuse. During that period, UDS will repair or replace any modem that suffers a malfunction.

# press release

Contact: Don Simenovic  
Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.  
111 Providence Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514  
(919) 492-1451

UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 PRECOMPILER FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FOR THE UNIX<sup>®</sup> OPERATING SYSTEMS

Chapel Hill, Technical Systems Consultants, Inc., has announced the availability of the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 precompiler for the UNIX<sup>®</sup> Operating Systems. Available for OEM licensing, the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 precompiler is designed to accept an expanded, improved syntax of BASIC source code and converts, or precompiles, the source to a standard syntax acceptable to the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 interpreter. Perhaps the most useful feature of the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 Precompiler is that it allows the use of variable names of unlimited length. These names can include letters, numbers, and the underscore character. For example, "year\_to\_date\_sales" is a valid variable name. This feature alone permits the creation of BASIC source that is vastly more readable than standard BASIC.

With the precompiler, all BASIC line numbers are optional, and they can be replaced with line labels. Like variable names, these labels can be of unlimited length and can include letters, numbers, and the underscore character. The use of alphanumeric line labels makes "goto" and "gosub" statements much easier to read. For example, the precompiler statement, "gosub calculate\_interest", may be used instead of the standard BASIC statement "gosub 8460".

A simple form of string substitution, "string/macros", permits the definition of a string of text which can be given a name. When that name is later referenced in the source, it is replaced by the entire defined string. Several conditional compilation commands permit various portions of a source program to be conditionally precompiled. Other features include the following: a single BASIC statement, or logical line, can extend across multiple physical lines; comments can be imbedded within BASIC lines or can stand alone on separate lines; variable types can be defined so that suffixes need not be appended to each variable; and the user has complete control over the printed source listing that the precompiler optionally outputs.

The output of the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 Precompiler is a compressed program that the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC 68000 Interpreter can run. The precompiled program cannot be listed or edited while in BASIC and, therefore, proprietary BASIC programs may be developed and distributed without the need to divulge the source code.

The UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC Precompiler requires the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC interpreter package. Although not a true compiler, the UNIFLEX<sup>®</sup> BASIC Precompiler will add a new dimension to programming in BASIC resulting from a vast improvement in writing, understanding, and maintaining BASIC programs.

## MP-C TO MP-T REVISITED

18 SEPTEMBER 1983  
EO CALHOUN PO BOX 73426 FAIRBANKS, ALASKA  
99707

AFTER READING OF THE MP-C TO MP-T MODIFICATION BY DONNIE WRIGHT ET AL (SEPT. MJ) I JUST COULDN'T WAIT TO TRY IT OUT. THIS MOD WAS JUST THE THING I NEEDED TO GET PRINTER SPOOLING WORKING AND WAS TAILOR MADE FOR MY SYSTEM. IN FACT, MR. WRIGHT MUST HAVE PEEKED INTO MY COMPUTER SHACK FOR BACKGROUND FOR HIS LETTER.

AS WITH MOST DEVELOPEMENTS, EACH SUCCEEDING PARTY MAKES THEIR OWN CONTRIBUTIONS. HERE ARE MINE.

FIRSTLY, THE MOD IS EVEN SIMPLER TO IMPLEMENT THAN WAS INDICATED. REFERRING TO THE INSTRUCTIONS AND DIAGRAM IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE (PGS. 26-27) STEPS 3

AND 4 ARE UNNECESSARY AS CONTROL OF THE IRQ GENERATOR CAN BE ACHIEVED VIA PBO (PIN 10) WHICH IS ALREADY CONNECTED TO THE RESET INPUT OF THE DIVIDE COUNTER (IC3).

STEP 1 MAY ALSO BE UNNECESSARY SINCE P87 (PIN 17) IS TRI- STATED WHEN PROGRAMMED AS AN INPUT; HOWEVER, BY THE TIME I REALIZED THAT THE DEED HAD BEEN DONE, TOLD YOU I WAS IN A HURRY.

REGARDING STEP 7 (JUMPER C1 TO C0) THAT IS EASILY DONE BY SHORTING (SOLDER BLOB WILL DO) IC3 (PIN 1) TO THE BAUD RATE SELECT JUMPER (D) WHICH IS ADJACENT TO IT.

SO, SHORTING PIA PINS 17 TO 18 AND SHORTING IC3 PIN 1 TO D THEN STRAPPING FOR IRQ AND 110 BAUD DOES THE TRICK!

THE CB2 LINE AND ASSOCIATED CIRCUITRY INTERESTED ME ALSO SO I PLUGGED AN LED BETWEEN READER CONTROL (JACK PIN 9) AND GROUND (PIN 1) SO AS TO HAVE A VISUAL INDICATION OF WHEN THE THING IS ON.

WE ARE NOW IN THE REALM OF SOFTWARE AND PLEASE NOTE THAT DEPENDING ON HOW YOU PROGRAM THE DEVICE THE LIGHT MAY BE ON WITH THE INTERRUPTS OFF OR VICE VERSA.

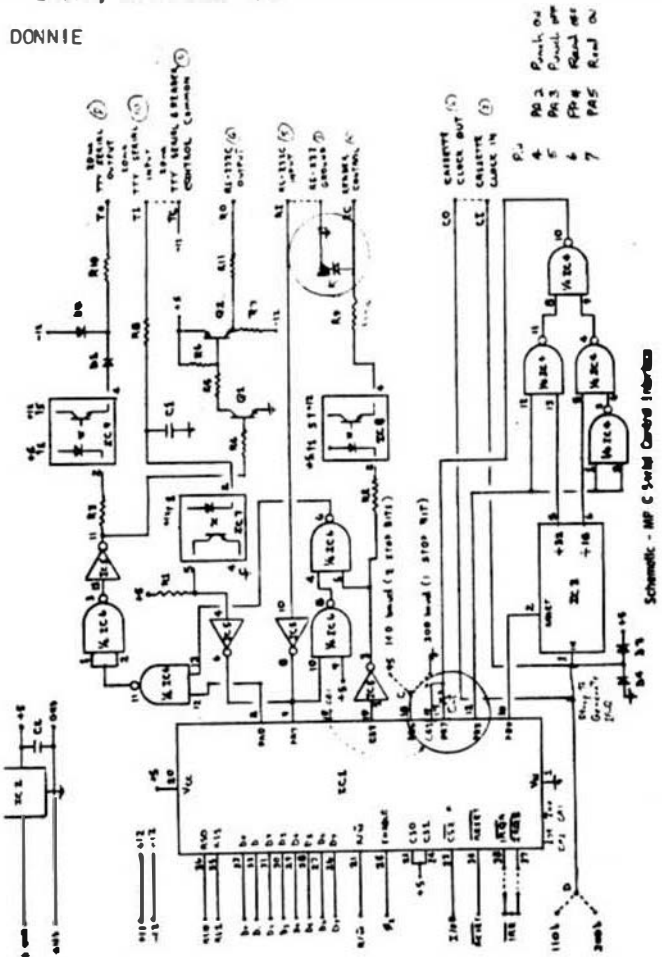
THE FOLLOWING LISTINGS SHOW THE PROGRAMMING TO HAVE THE LED AND INTERRUPTS ON OR OFF TOGETHER. THE SECOND LISTING IS A SIMPLE TESTING ROUTINE SO THAT YOU CAN CHECK THE FREQUENCY OF YOUR INTERRUPTS. DATA IN LOCATIONS \$0000,\$0001 WILL BE THE NUMBER OF IRQS<sup>1</sup> GENERATED PER INTERVAL (1 SEC IN LISTING).

BY THE WAY, YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF TWO IRQ INTERVALS AS DETERMINED BY THE STATE OF PB2. PB2=0 9 MSEC/IRQ OR PB2=1 18 MSEC/IRQ AT 110 BAUD. YOU CAN USE 300 BAUD TO GENERATE FASTER INTERRUPTS. PRETTY NEAT.

IN ACTUAL PRACTICE MY INTERRUPTS CAME AT THE RATE OF 108 PER SECOND (9.26 MS) AND 54 PER SECOND (18.6 MS).

ENJOY, AND THANK YOU.

DONNIE





# A Special Thank You!

*We want to express our thanks to all our customers. We have always felt that AAA Chicago Computer Center has the best and most loyal customer base that any dealer has ever had. Many of our customers have grown with us since April 1977 when we first opened our doors in Chicago.*

*Also, we would like to thank the manufacturers and vendors that we represent. Without their help and eager support, we never could have been able to supply our clients with the service that they have grown to expect from us. Together, we all form a team. Again, we want to acknowledge our thanks.*

*We'd like to note that our relationship with Smoke Signal Broadcasting and Southwest Technical Products dates all the way back to our beginning in April 1977. Not to slight anyone, we want to express thanks to our other vendors namely Technical Systems Consultants, Microware, Star-Kits, and our most recent addition, Helix.*

*At this time, we can say that we've probably installed more mixed SS-50 bus systems than any other dealer. For example, at the time we prepared this ad, we had 16 versions of FLEX (TM) drivers permitting the installation of our ELEKTRA Winchester systems with almost all versions of existing SS-50 and SS-30 floppy controllers.*

*While it is impossible and not economically feasible to support all combinations of hardware out in the field, we're trying our best. AAA Chicago Computer Center is the place to turn to when either adding on to your current SS-50 systems or purchasing a new one.*

*New this month is our \$125.00 auxiliary power supply permitting the installation of a second Winchester drive in our ELEKTRA computer cabinet. (Did you know that the ELEKTRA computer cabinet was the first SS-50 cabinet to include an EMI filter? The EMI filter has been included at no extra cost from the very beginning).*

*Did you know that our best selling 80 x 24 CRT terminal is the Hazeltine 1420? They are brand new and selling for only \$375.00 plus shipping.*

*Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.*

Phone

**AAA Chicago Computer Center**

Technical consultation available most weekdays from

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. C.S.T.

(312) 459-0450

120 Chestnut Lane, Wheeling, IL 60090

**See our catalog and ordering information on the next page to your right.**

<b>HELIX</b>			
64K 6809 Computer	\$2395.00	64K 68008 Computer	\$2495.00
256K 6809 Computer	2895.00	256K 68008 Computer	2995.00
Other systems available			
20 Megabyte 5" add on Winchester System			\$2595.00
64K CMOS Static memory board with battery backup			395.00
DMA 5" and 8" Floppy Controller with built in Winchester controller I/O			695.00
DMA 5" and 8" Floppy Controller	\$495.00	6809 CPU Board	495.00
68008 board for SS-50	595.00	CP/M-68K	350.00

Need FLEX, UnifLEX, OS-9 Level I, or OS-9 Level II? We have a system for you!

**ELEKTRA COMPUTER CABINET THE LARGEST SS-50 COMPUTER CABINET AVAILABLE!** Made of heavyweight 0.090" thick aluminum. Interior is 18-1/2" wide by 21-7/8" deep by 6-3/4" high. Heavy duty A.C. line cord. A.C. fuse holder. EMI filter. Fan with filter. Back panel has 10 cutouts for 'D' type data connectors. Front panel has key on/off power switch, 2 illuminated push button switches (Reset and NMI/Abort), and two cutouts for 5-1/4" disk drives. \$250.00

Filter Plate for 5-1/4" drive opening: \$10.00 Fan Filter: \$10.00  
**POWER SUPPLY** Highest quality linear power supply CONSERVATIVELY rated at 15a @ 8v, 3a @ 16v, 3a @ -16v. 3 primary inputs for light, rated, and heavy loading. 220v Version: \$200.00 110v Version: \$175.00

**DISK REGULATOR BOARD WITH CABLES** Standard version for 2 floppy drives \$5.00 Heavy duty version for 1 Winchester drive and 1 floppy drive \$75.00  
**AUXILIARY POWER SUPPLY** to power second Winchester drive \$125.00

**ENGINEER'S "FUN BOX" BY ELEKTRA** Computer cabinet with high quality 10 amp power supply, EMI filter, fan. Large enough to hold the standard size SS-50 type motherboard. \$225.00

**ELEKTRA UNIVERSAL SS-50/SS-50C MOTHERBOARD** Heavyweight 0.125" thick, 16" long by 9" wide, 11 memory (50 pin) slots, 8 I/O (30 pin) slots. Complete address decoding and selection, as well as extended address capability, for I/O slots. Choice of 4, 8, or 16 addresses per I/O slot. 1" spacing between all memory and I/O slots. On board baud rate generator with low and high ranges providing jumper selectable rates of 75 through 38,400 for each of the five baud rate lines, slow device circuitry permitting 1 MHz 30 pin disk controllers to run with 2MHz 50 pin CPU boards.  
 Mounting hardware \$5.00 Bareboard w/documentation \$80.00  
 Kit w/gold connectors \$320.00 Assembled w/gold connectors \$380.00  
 Kit w/in connectors \$240.00 Assembled w/in connectors \$300.00

**ELEKTRA CHASSIS** Includes cabinet, 110v power supply, power supply cables, standard disk regulator board with power cables, motherboard with gold square pin connectors, assembled and tested. \$850.00

**ELEKTRA CPU 9/9** Use either the 6802 or 6808 (on an 6800 software) or 6809 Has provision for up to 32716 programs, 1K scratchpad, MC8840 triple timer, and an option 1 baud rate generator providing baud rates from 110 through 38,400 baud in two user selectable ranges. Versions of OS-9 level 1 are available.  
 Bareboard \$50.00 Kit \$225.00 Assembled \$275.00  
 Optional Baud Rate Generator \$25.00

**ELE TRAPSD ALPORT SERIAL CARD** Fits the standard 30 pin SS-50 bus I/O slot. Can be configured for 4 or 16 addresses per port. RTS, CTS, DTR, DCD, IRO, FIRO/NMI, and baud rate can be appropriately implemented for each port.  
 Bareboard \$20.00 Kit \$60.00 Assembled \$80.00  
 Cable with mounting hardware (two needed per board) Each: \$25.00  
 Cable Each: 20.00 Mounting hardware per cable \$5.00

**ELEKTRA DDP DUAL PORT PARALLEL CARD** Fits the standard 30 pin SS-50 bus I/O slot. Can be configured for 4 or 16 addresses per I/O slot. The direction of the TTL buffers can be controlled by either on board jumper connectors or by a signal from the peripherals. The interrupt request line for each port may be individually jumpered to either the IRO or FIRO/NMI bus line.  
 Bareboard \$20.00 Kit \$60.00 Assembled \$80.00  
 Cable with mounting hardware (two needed per board) Each: \$25.00  
 Cable Each: 20.00 Mounting hardware per cable \$5.00

**ELEK RA 64K STATIC RAM/ROM MEMORY BOARDS** with gold connectors (for available) Assembled and tested. With 56K RAM \$289.00 With 64K RAM \$299.00

**ELEKTRA UNIVERSAL SUPER FLOPPY CONTROLLER THE BEST 30 PIN FLOPPY DISK CONTROLLER THAT YOU CAN BUY!** Controls up to four 5-1/4" drives and four 8" drives for a total of eight system drives. (FLEX system limit is four drives.) Single density or double density, 1MHz or 2MHz, 6800 or 6809 (Double density 8" must be at 2MHz, all other combinations of performance are possible.) Analog phase locked loop data separator with separate adjustments for 5" and 8" drives. Analog write precompensation circuit with separate adjustments for 5" and 8" drives. Designed to meet the data hold requirements of Western Digital floppy controller IC. Assembled and tested. \$275.00  
 Disk with drivers and formatting utilities (Specify 6800/9, FLEX/OS-9) 30.00

**ELEKTRA WINCHESTER SYSTEMS THE BEST WINCHESTER SYSTEMS THAT YOU CAN BUY!** Has automatic error detection and CORRECTION of up to 11 bit burst errors. SS-50 bus, extended addressing capabilities, DMA, on board sector buffer, drivers included for 6809 FLEX or OS-9. Specify whose version of FLEX you are using. Drivers for FLEX2 (6800) are available for an additional \$100.00. Price includes host interface controller, drivers, and cables.  
 12 Megabyte single drive sys \$2295.00 24 Megabyte dual drive sys \$3595.00  
 18 Megabyte single drive sys \$2995.00 38 Megabyte dual drive sys \$4895.00  
 (18 Megabyte drives are the largest that can be supported by FLEX)

**ELEKTRA HD-5 Cabinet** for dual 5-1/4" floppy drives with power supply, line cord, fuse power switch, and power cables to drives. \$150.00

**ELEKTRA HD-5W** As above but with EMI filter, fan, and heavy duty power supply. Powers 1 floppy and 1 Winchester. \$199.00  
 5" ribbon cable for dual outboard 5-1/4" disk drives 40.00  
 2" ribbon cable for dual inboard 5-1/4" disk drives 35.00  
 Custom cables available Phone

**ELEKTRA HD-8** Dual drive cabinet, EMI filter, fan, power supply, and power supply cables for 8" drives. \$350.00  
 8" ribbon cable for dual 8" disk drives 45.00

**ELEKTRA 30 PIN PROTOTYPING BOARD** 20.00

**ELEKTRA 50 PIN PROTOTYPING BOARD** 40.00

**GOLD 10 PIN CONNECTORS** (Specify male with square pins or female) 1.50

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 FLEX and UnifLEX are trademarks of Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.  
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 HELIX and BASICOS are trademarks of Microware Systems Corp.

Dealer for ELEKTRA, HELIX, SSB, SWTPC, Microware Systems Corp., and Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.  
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 120 CHESTNUT LANE • WHEELING IL 60090 1312 459-0450  
 Technical consultation available 4 PM to 8 PM most weekdays. Closed evenings and weekends.

**TERMS** Minimum order: \$20.00. Shipping and handling estimates within the Continental U.S. add 3% (MINIMUM \$2.50). Illinois residents add 6% sales tax. We will refund your overestimated shipping and handling charges. Foreign shipping and handling, add 10% (MINIMUM \$10.00). Foreign orders must be prepaid in U.S. dollars. Checks must be drawn on a U.S. (or Canadian) bank. Heavy foreign items will be shipped air freight collect. Please phone between 4 PM and 6 PM weekdays if questions arise regarding shipping fees. Master Charge, Visa, and American Express honored.

**Our apology.** We are not satisfied to answer technical inquiries through the mail. Please phone for technical help during the hours indicated above. The too frequent changing of our inventory and prices makes it uneconomical to publish a catalog. Our ads are intended to serve that purpose. Prices and inventory are subject to change without advance notice.

**ELEKTRA™ SOFTWARE** (All of our software is copyrighted and all rights are reserved. Source is either supplied or optionally available at extra cost so that the purchaser can make our programs for his own use. Licensing, however, is required for commercial resale.)

**SUPER MOODEM PROGRAM** Single character commands. No interrupts required. Transmit manually or transmit disk files (up to 100K) to any length or to disk computer. Receive and save disk files (text) on local disk system. X-on-X-off supported. Tested for full duplex at speeds up to 9600 baud. Half duplex option. Echo option. Repl. cas CR with CR LF (user option). Slow disk file transmit option.

Please specify 6800 or 6809, SSB or FLEX™, 5" or 8".  
 Instruction Manual and disk with both source and object code \$75.00

**STANDARD MODEM PROGRAM** Same as Super Modem Program above but without ECHO option, CR LF for CR option, slow disk file transmit option, nor X-on-X-off option. Specify 6800 or 6809.  
 Manual with instructions, source listing, and flow chart 10.00

**OS-9 Configurable Modem Program** (Sorry, source is not available) 100.00

**ORDER — WRIT UP COMPUTER PROGRAM** Screen oriented write up form with cursor editing, disk save and load, printer command using easily available universal print-out forms. Phone for more details. Available for 6809 FLEX \$100.00

**ALL IN ONE**  
 Editor — Text Processor — Mailing Labels — Mailing Lists — Multiple Form Letters. Use any CRT terminal and printer — Best Package For The Money Anywhere!

Specify 6800 or 6809, SSB or FLEX™, 5" or 8" 75.00  
 Printed source listing is available for an additional 35.00  
 At-In-One, Write n apen, and Spell n Fix package 25.00

**Software by Technical Systems Consultants, Inc.**

	UnifLEX™ w/1 yr. mnt	FLEX™
DOS (includes Editor and assembler)	550.00	150.00
Editor or Assembler	50.00	50.00
68000 Cross Assembler on 6809	300.00	250.00
6800 FLEX™ Utilities	100.00	100.00
Text Processor or Sort-Merge Package or 6809 FLEX™ Utilities	150.00	75.00
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Basic Precompiler for Extended Basic	150.00	50.00
Pascal	300.00	200.00
Debug Package or Diagnostic Package	75.00	75.00
6809 Relocating Assembler & Linking Loader	175.00	150.00
Fortran (With Relocating Assembler & Linking Loader)	450.00	
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Software by Microware	Run-Time Package	Update	Source	Manual	Object Code
OS-9™ Level One Operating System	75.00	600.00	N/A	40.00	200.00
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ASICOR™	100.00	75.00	N/A	25.00	200.00
OS-9™ Macro Text Editor			300.00	15.00	125.00
OS-9™ In-tractive Assembler			3.00	10.00	125.00
OS-9™ Interactive Debugger (Disk version)			100.00	10.00	50.00
CIS Cobol Compiler	400.00	50.00	N/A	80.00	900.00
Pascal Compiler	100.00	100.00	N/A	40.00	400.00
"C" Compiler		100.00	N/A	40.00	400.00
Microware yearly support service (\$200.00 for OS-9 Level 1)					75.00

**Special Software**  
 2K 6809 MICROBUG 30.00 4K 6809 HUMBUG 75.00  
 2K 6800 HUMBUG 40.00 4K 6800 HUMBUG 65.00

Other HUMBUG versions including video versions are available.  
 Spell Fix by Peter Stark 178.58 Write n Spell by Peter Stark 250.00  
 At-In-One, Spell n Fix, and Write n Spell package 60.00  
 Dynamic Disassembler 99.00  
 SUPER SLEUTH Disassembler System (\$101.00 for OS-9 version) 99.00

- U.S. Robotics 300-1200 baud auto dial/auto answer modem 499.00
- Same as above but without self test and diagnostics 399.00
- U.S. Robotics 1200 baud direct connect auto answer modem 349.00
- Hazeltine 1420 CRT terminal (new) 375.00
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- SWTPC 4K Memory \$15.00 MP-B \$40.00 MP-C 15.00
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- 10 ELEKTRA DD 8" Disks 35.00 10 5" DD Disks in hard box 25.00
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- Microtime II Calendar and Clock Board (Assembled) 60.00

**80/DD DISK DRIVES**  
 30 day guarantee 2 heads 1 head 2 heads  
 5-1/4", 40 tracks CDC MPI MPI  
 5-1/4", 40 tracks 300.00 250.00 325.00  
 MPI or CDC Service Manual (Specify 40 or 80 tracks) 375.00 325.00 400.00  
 8", 77 tracks DS/DD Oume DT-8 \$550.00 Remex (Special) 350.00

**GIMIX CLEARANCE SALE**

	LIST	OUR PRICE		LIST	OUR PRICE
65 6809 Plus CPU Bd.	578.50	475.00	6800 CPU board	224.00	100.00
Cable (Ser or Par I/O)	24.90	20.00	Baud rate gen. board	88.90	85.00
Motherboard	200.00		8 Port Serial I/O Bd.	318.46	250.00
Double disk reg. card	68.22	50.00	426 control w/GMX Flex	328.28	270.00
32K memory board	175.00		56K memory board	425.00	
64K memory board	478.67	450.00	Single prt ser. 1 cable	113.36	90.00
80 X 24 Video Boards	398.76	250.00	Dual prt par. 2 cables	138.32	110.00
64 X 16 Video Boards	198.71	100.00	4K PFD PROM Bd and burner		100.00
16K Mem Bds. w/cntrl reg.	145.00				
93C422 RAM chips (2 needed for GIMIX DAT)			each	20.00	

**SWTPC**  
 6809 SWTPC FLEX™ and manual 35.00  
 DC-4 Disk Controller (SS/DS, DS/DD, 5-1/4") 230.00

M-52 Dual Port Serial 120.00 MP-L2 Dual Port Parallel 120.00  
 M-52 Calculator Board (kit) 54.95 MP-N (assembled) 92.00  
 MP-R 2716 Eptrom Programmer 114.50 MP-O9 2MHz 680 CPU Board 29.00

**Smoke Signal Broadcasting**  
 DCB-4A Double Density Controller Board for 5" and 8" with DOS 54.90  
 SSB DOS (Specify 6800 or 6809, BFO or DCB-4A, 5" or 8") 75.00  
 SE92-SAVE-5 (6809 Edit/Asm for DOS) 69.95  
 SSB Monitor (Specify 6800/6809, \$8008/\$E008/\$F7E8) 75.00  
 SSB version of FLEX™ (without Editor and Assembler) 150.00

LMB-1A Motherboard 399.00  
 SCB-69 6809 CPU Board 399.00  
 PAR-1 Dual Port Parallel Board 88.00  
 SER-2 Dual Port Serial Board with 2 Cabi 129.00  
 Chief 90 64K Computer System 2185.00  
 Chief 95 4 64K Computer System with DS-OT-DO 5" FO 4325.00  
 Static Memory Boards M-16-X 195.00 M-24-X 295.00 M-32-X 395.00

**WARNING!** AAA Chicago Computer Center does not provide repair or diagnostic service for customer assembled kits. AAA Chicago Computer Center does warranty and maintain service for our assembled boards. The customer should carefully take into consideration the small differential separating out kit and assembled prices when making his choice of purchase.

We have introduced our line of computer equipment with the purpose of offering the highest quality of components possible at affordable prices. These products are intended for OEM applications where it is the responsibility of the purchaser to integrate these components with suitable memory, disk controllers, drives, and software along with I/O terminals to form working computer systems.

\* 18 SEPTEMBER 1983

\* TESTMPC

\* EQUATES

```
TINIT EQU $D397
TMON EQU $D3AD
TMOFF EQU $D39D
IRQVEC EQU $F3F8
MONITOR EQU $FC32 PSYMDN
```

ORG \$A000

```
START LDX #IHNDLR
STX IRQVEC
CLRA
TFR A,DP SET PAGE
LDY #0
STY 0 CLEARS IRQ COUNTER
JSR TMOFF THIS DOES INIT WITHOUT
* ALTERING TEST VECTORS
SEI JUST FOR BECAUSE
JSR TMON START INTERRUPTS
CLI READY, SET, GO
LDX #1000 APPROX 1 SECOND
BSR TIMER
JSR TMOFF STOP IRQ
JMP MONITOR
IHNDLR LDA $8002 CLEARS IRQ
LDY 0 GET IRQ COUNTER
LEAY I,Y INCREMENT IT
STY 0 SAVE IT
RTI RETURN FROM IRQ
TIMER LDA #$5A A LOOP
CONT DECA EACH A LODP APPROX.
NOP EQUAL TO 1 MSEC
NOP
NOP
BNE CONT
DEX NEXT X
BNE TIMER
RTS
```

END

\* 17 SEPTEMBER 1983

\* SPOOL PORT CONTROL ROUTINES

\* ROUTINE CONTROLS SWTPC MP-C

\* MODIFIED TO GENERATE INTERRUPTS

\* TINIT INITIALIZES SYSTEM

\* TMON TURNS ON IRQ GENERATOR

\* TMOFF TURNS IT OFF

\* IHNDLR CLEARS IRQ AND JUMPS

\* TO FLEX CHANGE TASK ROUTINE

38

\* IRQVEC AND SWIVEC ARE  
\* PSYMON EQUATES FOR  
\* PERCOM SBC/9 CPU

\* EQUATES

```
PGRT EQU $8000 PORT 0
FAST EQU $00 9 MSEC IRQ
SLOW EQU $04 18 MSEC IRQ
IRQVEC EQU $F3F8 +IRQ +
SWIVEC EQU $F3F2 +SWI3+
SWITCH EQU $C700 CHANGE TASK ROUTINE
```

ORG \$D397

```
TINIT LDX #IHNDLR
STX IRQVEC
TMOFF LDX #PORT MP-C ADDRESS
CLR 3,X RESET PIA
LOA #$05 BITS 0&2=OUTPUT
STA 2,X IN DOR
STA 3,X SET PIA FOR IRQ
LDA #$01 RESETS IRQ GENERATOR
STA 2,X TURNS OFF INTERRUPT
RTS
TMON LDX #PORT MP-C ADDRESS
LDA #FAST BIT 2=0
STA 2,X CONFIGURE IRQ
LDA #$25 SET CB2 HIGH
STA 3,X TURN ON LED
LDA 2,X RESETS IRQ
RTS
IHNDLR LDX #PORT MP-C ADDRESS
LDA 2,X CLEARS IRQ
JMP SWITCH
```

END

## BASIC SEARCH

JOHN F. SMYSEY  
6047 E. 36TH ST.  
BELTON, MISSOURI 64012  
PH 816-381-8358

13 AUG 1983

FOR MANY YEARS, I HAVE BEEN WRITING PROGRAMS IN BASIC USING MOST OF THE DIFFERENT VERSIONS PRODUCED BY SWTPC. IN ALL OF THE VERSIONS I HAVE USED, I HAVE NOTICED ONE SHORT-COMING THAT HAS HINDERED ME QUITE A BIT. THEY DON'T HAVE A SEARCH COMMAND.

HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN A LONG PROGRAM AND HALF WAY THROUGH IT DISCOVERED YOU HAVE MISPELLED A WORD THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROGRAM? OR DECIDED, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, THAT YOU WANT TO CHANGE A VARIABLE FROM ONE CHARACTER TO ANOTHER? WELL I HAVE, AND TO FIND ALL THE USAGES OF THAT WORD OR VARIABLE, I HAVE TO SEARCH THE ENTIRE PROGRAM, LINE BY LINE, AND READ EACH WORD TO FIND ALL OF THE PLACES WHERE I HAVE USED THEM. THIS CAN BE QUITE TIME CONSUMING.

TO ALLEVIATE THIS PROBLEM, I HAVE WRITTEN A SEARCH ROUTINE FOR SWTPC BASIC VER. 3.0. I USE THIS BASIC WITH MY EMULATED STRINGY FLOPPY AND THEIR SIMPLEX-68 VER. 2.0 OPERATING SYSTEM FOR A 68000 MICROPROCESSOR. THIS SYSTEM, AS MOST EVERY ONE KNOWS, IS PRACTICALLY IDENTICAL TO THE TSC FLEX 2.0 IOS. REALIZING THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THE SIMPLEX-68 OPERATING SYSTEM, I HAVE CONVERTED THE ROUTINE ADDRESSES TO THOSE OF THE FLEX 2.0 SYSTEM.

SINCE MY VERSION OF BASIC WAS MODIFIED BY EXAMINER FOR THE STRINGY FLOPPY, YOU MIGHT HAVE A PROBLEM LOCATING THE ADDRESSES FOR THE VERB AND VEREND BOU'S. I USE ONLY THE LAST HALF OF THE VERB TABLE IN MY ROUTINE AND THIS STARTS WITH THE VERB "LIST". THIS VERB IS PRECEDED, IN MY BASIC, WITH THE BYTES 00 99 99. START WITH THE ADDRESS OF THE FIRST BYTE AFTER 99 99 ARE YOUR VERBEG EQU. THE LAST VERB IN MY TABLE IS "STEP", FOLLOWED BY THE BYTES 00 32 90. THE ADDRESS OF THE BYTE 90 IS THE ADDRESS YOU WANT TO USE AS YOUR VEREND EQU. AGAIN, BECAUSE IN MIND THAT THE BEGINNING AND ENDING ADDRESSES OF THIS PART OF MY VERB TABLE MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM YOUR VERSION 3.0, DO ADJUST ACCORDINGLY. OTHER THAN THESE TWO ADDRESSES, YOU SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEMS ADDING THIS ROUTINE TO YOUR BASIC.

'68' Micro Journal

LONG AGO, I RAN OUT OF ROOM IN THE VERB TABLE TO ADD NEW ROUTINES, SO I EXTENDED THE TABLE TO THE END OF BASIC. HOWEVER, SINCE MOST OF YOU PROBABLY HAVE NOT DONE THIS, I HAVE WRITTEN THIS PROGRAM TO REPLACE THE VERB "LET" WHICH WE DON'T NEED ANYMORE, AND ONCE AGAIN, IF YOUR "LET" VERB ADDRESS DOES NOT EQUAL AT THE SAME ADDRESS AS MINE, THEN SIMPLY FIND OUT WHERE IT DOES START AND CHANGE THE ADDRESS ACCORDINGLY.

TO USE THIS PROGRAM, TYPE "FIN" AND A CARRIAGE RETURN. YOU WILL GET A CRLF AND A QUESTION MARK PROMPT. YOU THEN TYPE IN THE CHARACTER, WORDS OR WORDS YOU WANT TO FIND, FOLLOWED BY A CARRIAGE RETURN AND THE PROGRAM WILL LIST ALL LINES AND THEIR TEXT THAT CONTAIN THE INFORMATION YOU ARE SEEKING.

EXAMPLE:

FIN

? FREQUENCY

0020 PRINT TAB(20);"LOW FREQUENCY TRANSISTOR AMPLIFIER DESIGN"

0060 INPUT "CHANGE FREQUENCY (Y-N)";A\$ IF A\$="Y" THEN 330

BOTTOM

```

NAME FIND
* JOHN R RIMSEY 13 AUG 1983
* 8307 E. 166TH ST.
* BELTON, MISSOURI 64012
* PH 816-331-8358

*****
***** EQUATED *****
*****
0000 BUFFER EQU 0A000 FLEX LINE BUFFER
0010 INBUF EQU 0A010
0020 OUTBUF EQU 0A045
0030 PUTCH EQU 0A010
0040 PCRLF EQU 0A024
0050 PSTRNG EQU 0A01E
0060 PRGEND EQU 0000E BASIC START OF SOURCE PROGRAM
0070 PRGEND EQU 0A024 BASIC END OF SOURCE PROGRAM
0080 COLDS EQU 00100 BASIC COLB ENTRY
0090 WARMDS EQU 00103 BASIC WARM ENTRY
0100 VERBEG EQU 00237 BASIC START OF VERB TABLE
0110 VEREND EQU 00095 BASIC END OF VERB TABLE

*****
0140 OPC 0014E
0150 FDB MEM NEW START OF SOURCE PROGRAM AFTER BASIC

0240 OPC 0024D
0250 PCB /FIN/ CUB LET VERB ADDRESS
0260 FDB 0 REPLACE LET WITH FIND VERB
0270 FDB 0 ADDRESS OF FIND ROUTINE

*****
0290 ORG 02690
*****
0290 VERB 000 2
0290 INBUF 000 2
0290 OUTBUF 000 2
0290 PCRLF 000 2
0290 WARMDS 000 2
0290 VERBEG 000 2
0290 VEREND 000 1

*****
***** TERMINAL PROMPT TO ENTER WORD(S) TO FIND *****
*****
0260 CE 27 06 START LDI 00000 POINT TO MESSAGE
0260 BD 40 1E JBR PSTRNG PRINT IT

*****
***** ENTER ON THE TERMINAL THE WORD(S) YOU WANT TO FIND *****
*****
0260 CE 00 00 INPUT LDI 00000 STORE DATA FROM TERMINAL HERE
0260 BD 40 1B INPUT JBR INBUF GET A CHARACTER FROM THE TERMINAL

*****
***** SEE IF THE INPUT WAS A VERB *****
*****
0261 CE 02 17 VERB1 LDI 00000 GET THE START OF THE VERB TABLE
0261 FF 26 90 BTR VERB
0267 CE 00 00 LDI 00000 GET THE START OF THE BUFFER INPUT
0267 FF 26 90 STX INBUF
0268 CE 26 90 VERB2 LDI INBUF POINT TO THE BUFFER CHARACTER
0268 CE 00 00 LDI 00000 GET THE CHARACTER
026C C1 00 BTR INBUF LND OF BUFFER WORD?
026C 27 31 BEQ VERB3 YES, SO GET THE VERB ADDRESS
026C FE 26 90 LDI VERB NO, SO POINT TO THE VERB CHARACTER
026C 0C 03 01 CPX PRGEND IS THIS THE END OF THE VERB TABLE?
026C 27 30 BEQ 11004 YES, SO TRY TO FIND A MATCH IN THE TEXT
026C 46 00 LDI A 0000 NO, GO GET THE VERB CHARACTER
026C 11 00 CMA 0000 DO THE TWO CHARACTERS MATCH?
026C 27 17 BEQ VERB3 YES, THEY MATCH
026C 01 00 CMP A 00 NO, SO GET PAST THIS VERB
026C 27 05 BLO VERB4
026C 00 00 INX 0000
026C 00 00 LDI A 0000
026C 20 F7 BTR INX POINT TO NEXT VERB
026C 00 00 VERB4 INX
026C 00 00 INX 0000
026C 00 00 BTR VERB
026C FF 26 90 LDI INBUF GET THE START OF THE BUFFER BACK
026C CE 00 00 STX INBUF
026C FF 26 90 BTR VERB2
026C 20 03 BTR INX
026C 00 00 VERB5 LDI INX GET NEXT VERB CHARACTER
026C FF 26 90 STX VERB SAVE THE LOCATION

```

```

026C FE 26 90 LDI INX GET THE NEXT BUFFER CHARACTER
026C 00 00 BTR VERB2 SAVE THE LOCATION
026C 20 06 VERB6 LDI VERB GET THE VERB ADDRESS
026C 00 00 INX 0000 THIS IS THE ADDRESS OF THE VERB
026C FF 26 90 BTR VERB

*****
***** TRY TO MATCH TERMINAL INPUT WITH CODED VERB *****
*****
0267 CE 26 90 FIND1 LDI 00000 POINT TO PROGRAM START
0267 00 00 FIND2 LDI A 00000 GET IF PROGRAM END WAS REACHED
0267 01 FF CMA 00000
0267 27 29 BLO FIND4 YES, THE END WAS REACHED
0267 FF 26 90 STX LN NO, SO SAVE THE LINE NUMBER
0268 00 00 INX 0000 GET TO THE START OF THE
0268 00 00 INX 0000 TEXT IN THIS LINE
0268 00 00 INX 0000
0268 00 00 INX 0000
0268 00 00 INX 0000
0268 FF 26 90 STX LINBEG
026C 00 00 INX 0000
026C 3C 20 CPX PRGEND IS THIS THE END OF THE PROGRAM?
026C 26 05 BNE FIND3 NO, SO KEEP ON LOOKING
026C 06 FF LDI A 0000 YES, SO PREPARE TO END
026C 37 26 90 STX A FLAG
026C 09 00 FIND3 LDI VERB GET BACK TO THE VERB ADDRESS
026C 09 00 BTR VERB
026C 09 00 BTR VERB
026C 00 00 LDI 00000 GET THE VERB ADDRESS
026C 00 00 CPX VERB IS THIS THE VERB WE WANT?
026C 26 05 BNE TEXT1 NO, SO TRY TO FIND A MATCH IN THE TEXT
026C 06 FF JBR PLINE1 YES, GO ON AND PRINT THE ENTIRE LINE
026C 37 26 90 STX A FLAG WE WILL END THIS ROUTINE NOW
026C 00 00 FIND4 LDI 00000
026C 00 00 JBR PSTRNG
026C 00 00 LDI A 00000 RESET FLAG
026C 37 26 90 STX A FLAG
026C 00 00 LDI 00000 RESET VERB
026C FF 26 90 STX VERB
026C 01 03 JBR VERB6 GOTO BASIC

*****
***** TRY TO MATCH TERMINAL INPUT WITH TEXT *****
*****
026C CE 00 00 TEXT1 LDI 00000 POINT TO THE WORD TO FIND
026C FF 26 90 STX INBUF SAVE THE LOCATION
026C FE 26 90 TEXT2 LDI LINBEG SAVE THE START OF THE TEXT LINE
026C 27 30 TEXT3 STX INXTMP SAVE OUR PLACE IN THE TEXT
026C 46 00 LDI A 0000 GET A CHARACTER FROM THE TEXT
026C 01 00 CMA 0000 IS THIS THE END OF THE TEXT LINE?
026C 27 14 BEQ TEXT4 YES, SO LOOK AT THE NEXT LINE
026C 26 90 LDI VERB NO, SO POINT TO THE WORD TO FIND
026C 00 00 LDI 0000 GET A CHARACTER FROM THE BUFFER
026C 00 00 BTR VERB IS IT A MATCH?
026C 27 0F BEQ TEXT5 YES, SO TRY TO MATCH ANOTHER BYTE
026C 00 00 LDI 00000 EITHER NO MATCH OR INCOMPLETE MATCH
026C FF 26 90 STX INXTMP NO, RESET BUFFER POINTER
026C 26 90 LDI 00000
026C 20 E3 BTR TEXT3 GO AND LOOK AT THE NEXT TEXT BYTE
026C 00 00 INX 0000 POINT TO THE NEXT LINE NUMBER
026C 20 99 BTR TEXT3 GO AND LOOK AT THE NEXT LINE
026C 00 00 LDI 00000 POINT TO THE NEXT BUFFER CHARACTER
026C C1 00 LDI 00000
026C 26 32 BTR TEXT6 WAS ENTIRE BUFFER WORD MATCHED?
026C 00 00 BNE TEXT6 NO, IT WAS NOT
026C 00 00 JBR SPACE IT WAS, GO PRINT THE LINE NUMBER
026C 00 00 LDI LINBEG AND A SPACE
026C 26 90 LDI VERB GET TO THE START OF THIS LINE
026C 00 00 BTR VERB GET BACK TO THE VERB ADDRESS
026C 00 00 BTR VERB TO ALLOW PRINTING OF THE VERB
026C 00 00 BTR VERB
026C 27 93 JBR PLINE3 PRINT THE REST OF THE LINE
026C FF 26 90 TEXT6 STX INXTMP SAVE OUR PLACE IN THE BUFFER
026C 26 90 LDI 00000 POINT TO OUR PLACE IN THE TEXT
026C 00 00 INX 0000 GET TO THE NEXT CHARACTER
026C 20 BE BTR TEXT3 GO AND LOOK FOR ANOTHER MATCH

*****
***** PRINT THE ENTIRE LINE *****
*****
0269 BD 27 C2 PLINE1 JBR LINE PRINT THE LINE NUMBER
026C 00 27 C9 JBR SPACE PRINT A SPACE
026C FE 26 90 PLINE2 LDI VERB POINT TO THE VERB
026C 09 00 BTR VERB GET TO THE VERB ASCII
026C 09 00 PLINE3 LDI 00000
026C 46 00 LDI A 0000 BTR PLINE3
026C 01 00 CMA 0000
026C 26 F9 BNE PLINE4
026C 00 00 PLINE4 INX 0000 THIS IS THE VERB ASCII
026C 00 00 INX 0000
026C 00 00 INX 0000
026C 46 00 PLINE5 LDI A 0000 GET THE ASCII IN ACC A
026C 01 00 CMA 0000 IS THIS THE END OF THE ASCII VERB?
026C 27 06 BEQ PLINE6 YES IT WAS SO PRINT THE REST OF THE LINE
026C 00 2D 10 JBR PUTCH NO, SO KEEP ON PRINTING THE VERB
026C 20 F4 BTR PLINE5 GET THE NEXT ASCII CHARACTER
026C 00 27 C9 PLINE6 LDI 00000 PRINT A SPACE
026C FE 26 90 PLINE7 LDI LINBEG POINT TO BEGINNING OF TEXT
026C 46 00 LDI A 0000 GET THE CHARACTER
026C 01 00 CMA 0000 IS THIS THE END OF THIS LINE?
026C 27 06 BEQ PLINE8 YES, SO GET TO THE NEXT LINE
026C 00 2D 10 BTR PLINE7 NO, SO PRINT THE CHARACTER
026C 00 00 INX 0000 GET THE NEXT CHARACTER IN THE LINE
026C 20 F4 PLINE8 JBR PUTCH
026C 00 2D 24 JBR PCRLF
026C 27 00 JBR FIND2

*****
026C FE 26 90 LINE LDI 00000 GET THE LINE NUMBER
026C 00 2D 45 JBR OUTABR PRINT IT
026C 39 00 RTS

*****
026C 06 20 SPACE LDI A 00000 SET UP A SPACE
026C 00 2D 10 JBR PUTCH PRINT IT
026C 39 00 RTS

```



```

*****
270F 42 NONE FCC /BOTTOM/
2705 04 FCC 4
*****
2706 3F PROMPT FCC / /
2708 04 FCC 4
*****
2709 NEW
END COLD5
NO ERROR(S) DETECTED

```

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1925 W. Mistletom  
San Antonio, TX 78201  
1 October, 1983

Mr. Don Williams  
Editor, '68' Micro Journal  
5900 Cassandra Smith  
PO Box 849  
Hixson, TN 37343

Dear Mr. Williams:

We would like to announce the formation of a 6809 User's Group in San Antonio, Texas. Our group is small, at present, but we are interested in both hardware and software aspects of the 6809 microprocessor. We plan to meet informally about once a month, and all interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Dave Lapointe, after 7:00 P.M. at 512-732-6876 (voice).

Sincerely,  
Dave Lapointe et al.

John H. Deal  
122 Moorings Park Drive Apt. 709  
Naples Florida 33942  
1-813-261-0536

September 26, 1983  
Page No. 1

68 MICRO JOURNAL  
5900 Cassandra Smith  
P.O. Box 849  
Hixson Tennessee 37343

ATT: Mr. Don Williams Sr., Publisher

Dear Don:

As you probably remember I sent you a program called BASLIST, which you accepted for input in your excellent JOURNAL. Since that time I have made some improvements in the program. As now written, the program allows user selection of LEFT MARGIN, and will automatically indent the wrap around portion of a line properly, for line numbers of up to 5 digits. Also the number of wrap around lines is unlimited, depending only on the length of a line permitted by BASIC. It does come into play, however, for large left margins.

I am enclosing a copy of the improved program in both the normal 10 C.P.I. and condensed 16.5 C.P.I. modes. Note that the left margin is set at 25 in the 16.5 C.P.I. mode. This may be changed to suit by altering 'X' in line 568.

I am also enclosing a copy of the program for the RS COLOR COMPUTER in the event you may want to use it also. It has all the attributes of the FLEX version except for the absence of the condensed mode.

In the hope that you have not yet set the version of the program which I sent earlier, please destroy it and use this improved version.

Sorry for any confusion that all this may cause you Don, but I thought it worthwhile to send these new programs along.

I am using an OKIDATA 83A printer. CHR\$(29) and CHR\$(30) print 16.5 and the normal 10 C.P.I. respectively. CHR\$(29);CHR\$(13); print Bold Type.

Very truly yours,

*John H. Deal*  
John H. Deal

SEPTEMBER 23 1983 FLEX 9.0 - DISK NO. 1000 BASLIST.BAS  
JOHN H. DEAL CASE NO. 1

```

100 REM .. THIS PROGRAM CALLED 'BASLIST'
110 EXEC, "TYPESET DP=0,WD=0"
120 PRINT CHR$(12)
130 PRINT TAB(25); "BASLIST"
140 PRINT TAB(20); "FOR FLEX 9.0 X BASIC: PRINT: PRINT
150 PRINT "THIS PROGRAM WILL LIST A DISK BASIC FILE. IT WILL PRINT A
    HEADER AND ALLOWS YOU TO SET THE LEFT MARGIN."
160 PRINT "IT WILL ALSO INDENT THE WRAP AROUND PORTION OF A LINE 1 TO 5
    SPACES DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF DIGITS IN THE LINE NUMBER"
170 PRINT
180 REM *****
190 INPUT "WHAT IS THE BASIC PROGRAM TO BE LISTED (AS 'BASLIST'):"; P$
200 BS=P$: BOP=P$+0
210 INPUT "WHAT IS THE DISK NUMBER (AS 1000)"; F$
220 INPUT "DO YOU WANT LISTING AT 16.5 CPI (Y/N)"; K$
230 INPUT "WHAT IS TODAY'S DATE (AS JUNE 12 1983)"; D$: PRINT
240 INPUT "WHAT LEFT MARGIN DO YOU WANT (AS 5)"; L$
250 REM *****
260 OPEN "O:PRINT" AS 0
270 GOSUB 400
280 IF LEFT$(L$,1)="Y" THEN BOTO 548
290 ON ERROR BOTO 410
300 OPEN OLD 0 AS 1
310 INPUT LINE 0; L$
320 FOR M=2 TO 6: IF MID$(L$,M,1)="" THEN NEXT M
330 L1=L$
340 IF LEN(L1) < 100 THEN BOP=710: BOTO 310
350 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L1
360 IF C=53 THEN PRINT 0; HR$(2); BOP=440: C=0: BOTO 310
370 C=C+1
380 BOTO 310
390 EXEC, "TYPESET DP=0"
400 END
410 IF ERR(0) THEN ON ERROR BOTO 0
420 RESUME 390
430 REM *****
440 REM .. SUBROUTINE TO PRINT HEADING
450 C=0: P$=""
460 P$="PAGE NO. "+STR$(P)
470 PRINT 0; CHR$(30)
480 PRINT 0; TAB(5); D$
490 PRINT 0; TAB(3); F$: FLEX 9.0 - DISK NO. (F); TAB(65); P$
500 PRINT 0; TAB(5); "JOHN H. DEAL: TAB(65); P$
510 REM
520 PRINT 0; PRINT 0; RETURN
530 REM *****
540 REM .. SUBROUTINE FOR 16.5 CPI
550 ON ERROR BOTO 680
560 PRINT 0; CHR$(29); L1; X=25
570 OPEN OLD 0 AS 1
580 INPUT LINE 0; L$
590 FOR M=2 TO 6: IF MID$(L$,M,1)="" THEN NEXT M
600 L1=L$
610 IF LEN(L1) < 125 THEN BOP=660: BOTO 580
620 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L1
630 IF C=51 THEN PRINT 0; CHR$(12); BOP=440: PRINT 0; CHR$(29)
640 C=C+1
650 BOTO 580
660 EXEC, "TYPESET WD=0,DP=50": PRINT 0; CHR$(30); CLOSE 1: CLOSE P
670 END
680 IF ERR(0) THEN ON ERR BOTO 0
690 RESUME 660
700 REM *****
710 REM .. SUBROUTINE TO INDENT THE WRAP AROUND LINE
720 BOP=0
730 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L1; C=C+1
740 L2=RIGHT$(L1, LEN(L1)-LEN(L1))
750 IF LEN(L2) < 100 THEN L=L2: BOP=0: BOTO 770
760 IF LEN(L2) < 100 THEN L=L2: BOTO 780
770 PRINT 0; TAB(L1+X); L2; C=C+1: BOTO 740
780 PRINT 0; TAB(L1+X); L2; C=C+1
790 RETURN
800 FOR J=1 TO 20
810 L1=LEFT$(L1, (100-X)-J)
820 IF RIGHT$(L1,1)="" THEN 830 ELSE 840
830 NEXT J
840 RETURN
850 REM *****
860 REM .. SUBROUTINE FOR 16.5 CPI WRAP AROUND
870 BOP=0
880 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L1; C=C+1
890 L2=RIGHT$(L1, LEN(L1)-LEN(L1))
900 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L2
910 PRINT 0; TAB(X); L2
920 IF LEN(L1) < 125 THEN L=L2: BOP=0: BOTO 940
930 IF LEN(L1) < 125 THEN L=L2: BOTO 940
940 PRINT 0; TAB(L1+X); L2; C=C+1: BOTO 880
950 PRINT 0; TAB(L1+X); L2; C=C+1
960 RETURN
970 FOR J=1 TO 20
980 L1=LEFT$(L1, (125-X)-J)
990 IF RIGHT$(L1,1)="" THEN 1000 ELSE 1010
1000 NEXT J
1010 RETURN

```

SEPTEMBER 23 1983 TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER BASLIST.BAS  
JOHN H. DEAL DISK NO. 1000 PAGE NO. 1

```

100 POKE 149,0: POKE 150,41: REM .. SETS 1200 BAUD
110 REM .. THIS PROGRAM CALLED 'BASLIST' AND LISTS A BASIC
    PROGRAM SAVED IN ASCII CODE. IT WILL ALLOW SETTING A LEFT MARGIN, AND
    WILL INDENT THE WRAP AROUND PORTION OF A LINE 1 SPACE PLUS THE NUMBER OF
    DIGITS IN THE LINE NUMBER.
120 REM *****
130 REM .. THE PROGRAM TO BE LISTED MUST HAVE BEEN SAVED USING THE 'A'
    FORMAT.
140 CLEAR 10000

```

```

190 INPUT-WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE BASIC PROGRAM. AS (BASELIST) : INQ:PRINT
160 INPUT-ENTER TODAY'S DATE. AS (SEPTEMBER 18 1983) : INQ:PRINT
170 INPUT-WHAT IS THE DISK NUMBER. AS (1000) : INQ:PRINT
180 INPUT-WHAT LEFT HANDING. AS (4) : INQ:PRINT
190 RE-NAME-NB-NB-"/BAS-PRINT
200 CUB(0)=1:GOSUB 320:PRINT
210 OPEN "I", 01, NO
220 IF EOF(1)=1 THEN 300
230 LINE INPUT 01, L$
240 FOR N=2 TO 6:IF MID$(L$,N,1)="" THEN NEXT N
250 L1=L$
260 IF LEN(L1) < 100-X: THEN GOSUB 400:GOTO 240
270 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : L$
280 C=C+1:IF C=50 THEN PRINT 0-2, CHR$(121):P=0:IF C=0:IF EOF(1)=1 THEN
GOSUB 320 ELSE 300
290 GOTO 240
300 CLOSE 01:END
310 REM ***** *****
320 REM .. SUBROUTINE TO PRINT HEADING AND SET BOLD PRINT.
330 CLS
340 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : (0) : TAB(36) : "TPE-88 COLDS COMPUTER" (CHR$(29)) :
CHR$(21) :
350 PRINT 0-2, TAB(68) : (1) : CHR$(30) : " /BAS"
360 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : (1) : JOHN H. DEAL : TAB(36) : (1) : DISK NO.
"ID: TAB(63) : (1) : "BASE NO. " : (1)
370 PRINT 0-2, PRINT 0-2:IF 0: THEN PRINT 0-2
380 C=0:RETURN
390 REM ***** *****
400 REM .. SUBROUTINE TO INDENT A WRAP AROUND LINE.
410 GOSUB 490
420 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : (1) : C=C+1
430 IF LEN(L1) < 100-X: THEN L1=L1+L$
440 IF LEN(L1) < 100-X: THEN L1=L1+L$
450 IF LEN(L1) < 100-X: THEN L1=L1+L$
460 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : (1) : C=C+1:GOTO 430
470 PRINT 0-2, TAB(1) : (1) : L1=L1+L$
480 RETURN
490 FOR J=1 TO 20
500 L1=L1+L$ (L$ (100-X))
510 IF RIGHT$(L1, 1)="" THEN 520 ELSE 530
520 NEXT J
530 RETURN

```

AS = "" : FOR J = 1 TO X: AS = AS + " " : NEXT J  
where X is the required length.

If that is not impressive enough then consider the following :-

MOVE ALL "ABCDEP" TO DATA-NAME.

This sentence will fill DATA-NAME with "ABCDEP" repetitively until the field is full, truncating the result to fit. It can be done in BASIC but only with complicated code. Even if the TSC BASIC field definitions are used then the program is :-

```

BS = "ABCDEP"
FOR J = 1 TO X
BS = BS + BS
NEXT J
LST: AS = BS

```

where X has to be chosen such that LEN(BS) > LEN(AS).

When it comes to formatting print lines or data records then it is hard to draw a discrete veil over the capabilities of BASIC. The current BASIC gets to the "PRINT USING" statement and there is simply no comparison between this and the COBOL edited picture.

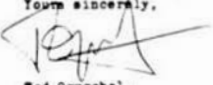
This is NOT intended as a diatribe against BASIC. I'm simply making the point about language design. The same or similar points could be made about other languages like PASCAL or FORTRAN. The language is not designed to do this sort of thing and so any attempt to force the issue results in a lot of complicated code and unwarranted assumptions.

Getting into the COBOL philosophy means dropping some of the informal ways of programming and at first it may even also be compared to an interpreter. There is nothing slower than sitting over a hot machine writing bad code which in a few weeks is incomprehensible to the author and everyone else.

I'm sure that there are a lot of people out there who are as tired of fighting the software as I am. COBOL is not an universal panacea, it is just the best available solution for the standard data handling problems which most programs are all about, unless of course you are uninterested in processing data. In which case why have a computer?

Our COBOL implementation for FLEX has all the features of level 1 and some of the useful features of level 2 COBOL. There is a runtime package which is normally memory resident. We have included library features which make program development a snap. We are committed to providing support for COBOL for the foreseeable future and will be making enhancements to the compiler as

time allows. Future plans include inexpensive application packages based on our compiler. There is already a wealth of published information on COBOL and COBOL based applications, both for mainframe and micros.

Yours sincerely,  
  
Ted Oppenhal.



MICROWARE.

PRESS RELEASE

September 15, 1983  
For Immediate Release  
Contact: Andy Bell, 515-279-8844

#### A NEW OS-9 TOOLBOX FOR FILE MANIPULATION

Microware has announced a new utility command toolbox specially designed for OS-9 users who do a lot of file manipulation. The package is a collection of twelve OS-9 command programs, including equivalents of some of the most popular UNIX utilities that are not included in the basic OS-9 command set. Most of the programs are useful as "filters" using the OS-9 pipeline facilities.

Programs included are: "tr" which transliterates all occurrences of a simple or complex text pattern within a file to a specified substitution pattern; "grep" which searches a text file for a pattern and prints matching lines; "count" which counts words, lines, or characters within a text file; and "d", an unformatted directory listing with "wild card" matching.

Also included are "expand" and "compress", which are character compression and decompression utilities that can reduce the size of text files; "split" which breaks a file into smaller files; "lspas" which indents lines and spaces lines in a text file; "code" which decodes terminal keys to hex notation; "qsort" which is a quick sort small files, directories, etc.; "pr", a versatile formatted file printing utility; and "xmode" which is used to alter terminal port operational mode.

#### MICROWARE INTRODUCES 6809 C COMPILER

A complete C language compiler for the Motorola 6809 microprocessor has been introduced by Microware Systems Corporation for its popular OS-9 operating system. The Unix-



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P.O. Box 189  
2860 Green Lane  
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01-882 8936  
Telex 8813271 GECOMS G

Our ref  
Your ref  
Date

Dear Don,

Finally! I enclose a copy of our COBOL compiler for FLEX. This product has taken about two years to complete, and even now the manuals enclosed are preliminary versions. If you are happy with the product then the next thing I want to do is to advertise in the Journal.

A lot of circumstances have conspired to delay this software. Mainly the time taken in writing the manuals. This year we have written and published a total of five software products for the DRAGON computer since January, including an assembler, monitor and full screen editor. Our software is about the most popular of its kind, in the U.K. for the DRAGON and the assembler features in a new book, to be published in November, on DRAGON machine code by Ian Sinclair.

I guess a word or two about "why COBOL?" is in order. I suspect that my interest in FLEX and the 6809 is about as passionate as most. Many buffs are into machine related performance and this is similar to the early days of microframes. It takes the number of articles in the 68 Journal comparing the performance of various processors. Trouble is, when I actually want to write a useful program then I'm not interested in performance at the expense of usability or fancy structured syntax without precise control of DATA.

Like many people I tried precompiler BASIC and although this is a vast improvement over other methods of programming there is no significant improvement in language function. BASIC, or for that matter PASCAL or FORTRAN, is incapable, by DESIGN, of most of the standard D.P. functions which I need when writing programs. For example string handling verbs in BASIC are a bolt on extra which were invented to circumvent the imprecision way that BASIC defines its variables.

COBOL is disliked for its syntax, verbosity, structure and the color of the paper it uses. In fact I have rarely met a buff who likes COBOL at all. On the other hand most programmers who have to produce functional applications software regularly use COBOL. There is a good reason for this. COBOL was designed for data processing and over years it has proven itself to be capable of just that. The availability of a COBOL compiler means a commercial acceptance of the capabilities of a computer or operating system and it is high time that this facility was available for FLEX.

COBOL scores for its elegance in data definition, and it has a well defined language structure purposefully designed to handle meaningful record structures. As a result most programs, and programmers, only need to use a minimum of program syntax to achieve results.

For example to clear out a data field to spaces one simply says :-

MOVE SPACES TO DATA-NAME.

In BASIC this would be :-

structured constructs and other concepts intended to assist in the development of programs embodying such desirable traits as structure and modularity. PL/9 is a true compiler, generating 6809 machine code, without the use of an intermediate assembly language stage.

The A/BASIC language is a version of BASIC without many high-level constructs often found in general purpose versions of BASIC. It also has several lower-level constructs not normally found in other versions of BASIC. Although it has no structured constructs as does PL/9, it does have string processing and input/output constructs supporting terminal and disk files, unlike PL/9, which has no string or input/output constructs, and thus may be logically classified as a high-level language. A/BASIC is a true compiler generating 6809 machine code, without the use of an intermediate assembly language stage. A/BASIC is also available in a version for the 6800, although several features (such as random disk I/O) are available only in the 6809 version.

#### DOCUMENTATION

The product documentation is the first representation of a new product that a prospective buyer investigates or a new user normally studies. It is important for the manual to convey a sense of the product's worth to the reader. Both A/BASIC and PL/9 have problems with their manuals which could be corrected if the proper emphasis were placed on documentation.

The PL/9 manual is far superior to the A/BASIC manual. It has a table of contents, lacking in the latter, it is lengthier, easier to read, and contains more detailed descriptions and examples than are in the A/BASIC manual. Neither has an index nor quick reference syntax guide, although quick reference guides are provided at the end of this article.

Neither has an introductory section to introduce a newcomer to the language. Both manuals are rather disorganized and make it rather difficult to find some specific points, such as statement, operator, and function syntax and semantics. However, the PL/9 manual has a very detailed description of the internal specifications of the PL/9 compiler.

The PL/9 manual appears much more professionally done than the A/BASIC manual. It is prepared on a word processor and the A/BASIC manual is manually prepared and has strange vertical and horizontal spacing, probably due to multiple levels of revisions, additions, and deletions.

#### NUMBER REPRESENTATION

Both A/BASIC and PL/9 support 8 and 16 bit integer arithmetic. PL/9's 8 bit arithmetic is signed, unlike A/BASIC's, which is unsigned. Both A/BASIC and PL/9 support signed 16 bit arithmetic, although A/BASIC also supports unsigned 16 bit arithmetic.

Both languages allow the entry of numeric constants in either decimal or hexadecimal notation. Literal numbers are assumed to be in decimal notation unless preceded by a dollar symbol, in which case they are assumed to be in hexadecimal notation.

Neither language supports floating point or extended precision arithmetic directly, although both have the ability to perform both indirectly, thru the use of assembler or machine language subroutines.

The PL/9 supporting library appears on the disk is but not covered in the manual except for a mention of how to include a library member. It contains several useful packages, including a floating point library and a compatible scientific library containing the basic trigonometric and transcendental functions.

#### NAMING CONVENTIONS

A/BASIC uses a highly restrictive naming convention common to many BASIC processors. Variable names must start with a capital letter and may contain a second character, which may be a digit for numeric variables or "\$" for character variables (strings). Numeric variables may be subscripted with one or two dimensions and character variables may be subscripted with one dimension. Character variables may be up to 32 bytes in length, unless they have a declared length, in which case they may be up to that number of bytes in length, which may not exceed 255. The first element of an array is number 1, and may be referenced with or without the (1) or (1.1) subscript. The number of elements in a subscripted variable must be a constant and cannot exceed 65535.

PL/9 uses a much less restrictive naming convention than does A/BASIC, allowing variable names to be up to 127 characters in length, all of them significant. Variable names must start with a capital letter, which may be followed by up to 126 capital letters, digits, and underlines, in any order. Since all variables must be declared, there is no need for a naming distinction to distinguish between 8 and 16 bit variables. Variables may be subscripted with one dimension, which must be a constant not exceeding 32767. The first element of an array is number 0. If a variable name is prefixed with a period, it is assumed to contain not a value but a pointer to a value, used in a manner similar to the pointer variables in "C".

#### DECLARATIONS

The only explicit declaration in A/BASIC is DIM, which declares a string or a numeric or string array. Variables may also be declared by use, and mis-apellings may cause new variables to be created, when the intent was to use existing variables.

PL/9 requires the declaration of all variables, avoiding A/BASIC's accidental creation of variables, but requiring 42

somewhat more planning by the user. Variables may be declared as BYTE or INTEGER, analogous to the string and numeric variables of A/BASIC, and may be subscripted by following the declaration with the size in parentheses. For instance, the following is an example of PL/9 declarations:

```
BYTE BUFFER(80), FLAG; INTEGER COUNT, LINES;
```

Named numeric constants may be declared with the CONSTANT declaration, which is used in the following format:

```
CONSTANT CR=13, LP=10, SPACE=32;
```

One of the more powerful declarations supported by PL/9 is PROCEDURE. Its closest A/BASIC analog is a subroutine which is the target of a GOSUB. It establishes a named subroutine with or without parameters and with or without local variables. Any parameters are enclosed in parentheses immediately after the procedure name and are separated by colons. The declarations of any local variables immediately follow the parameter list. Parameters and local variables are declared as BYTE or INTEGER and may be subscripted with one dimension only.

Executable code in a PL/9 program must be contained in one or more PROCEDURES. Each PROCEDURE may or may not return a value, and each call must be consistent with the declaration of the PROCEDURE. If a PROCEDURE is to return a value, its type (INTEGER or BYTE) is determined from the type of the expression returned by a RETURN or ENDPROC statement. Although it is not stated in the manual, the last PROCEDURE declared is assumed to contain the main program code. An alternate form of PROCEDURE is ASMPROC, which introduces a machine language subroutine, but is otherwise declared and used in a manner similar to PROCEDURE.

Variables declared outside of any PROCEDURES are global, and the word GLOBAL must precede the BYTE or INTEGER declaration. Only one GLOBAL statement is allowed per program unit. Global variables are accessible in all subsequent PROCEDURES. However, PROCEDURE parameters, local variables, and labels may have the same names as global variables, in which case the local declarations override the global declarations temporarily.

Labels are declared by usage within a procedure, and are local to the PROCEDURE of declaration. They are used only as the destination point of GOTO statements. They must conform to the naming conventions of other identifiers. The actual destination point is designated by a label followed by a colon.

The PL/9 symbolic debugger requires a table containing the names, addresses, lengths, and types of all variables used in the program. Thus the compiler restricts the user to 128 each of the following named variables:

```
procedures
globals
locals and parameters per procedure
labels per procedure
named constants
data statements
```

These restrictions will tend to limit the complexity of the programs processed with PL/9, although the typical program for dedicated applications is not very complex, in terms of the number of variables and labels required.

#### MEMORY ALLOCATION

Both PL/9 and A/BASIC have default and specified methods of allocating space for data, program, and stack areas.

By default, A/BASIC allocates variables starting at \$8030 up and PL/9 allocates variables starting at the end of the stack down, with PROCEDURE parameters and local variables using temporary locations at lower addresses than the fixed global variables. A/BASIC uses a statement of the following form to modify the current data pointer, and thus subsequent memory allocation:

```
BASE=address
```

PL/9 prefixes a variable declaration with a sequence of the following form to modify allocation for that declaration only:

```
AT address;
```

By default, A/BASIC starts program code at address \$1000 and PL/9 places program code as high as possible in memory; PL/9 code is position-independent, so this is possible. A/BASIC uses the following statement to modify subsequent program code allocation:

```
ORG=address
```

PL/9 uses the following statement to modify subsequent program code allocation:

```
ORIGIN=address
```

However, origin statements are ignored by the PL/9 symbolic debugger, which loads program code as high as possible in memory.

By default, A/BASIC and PL/9 use the stack space allocated by the monitor or operating system. Both use a statement of the following form to set the initial stack pointer:

```
STACK=address
```

PL/9 allows a statement of the following form to set the initial stack pointer to the start of the program code, assuming the statement is placed before any PROCEDURES:

```
STACK=*
```

compatible compiler conforms to the Kernighan and Ritchie C specification including long, float, and double data types.

Because of the similar characteristics of the OS-9 and Unix operating systems, the C compiler provides source code level compatibility so that application software written for Unix can be also be run on OS-9 or the reverse. The output of the compiler is optimized 6809 assembly language source code which can be run on OS-9 or used in stand-alone systems such as ROM-based control systems.

A unique feature of the Microvare C compiler is its real-time profiler capability. When activated, the profiler counts procedure invocations during program execution. A report printed after the program runs gives a statistical breakdown of function execution frequency. Using this information the programmer can identify which functions can most profitably be optimized.

A relocating macro assembler, linkage editor, and comprehensive standard function library is included in the compiler package. The standard library includes all C standard functions plus Unix and OS-9 system calls. Documentation consists of a comprehensive User's Manual plus a copy of the Kernighan and Ritchie book "The C Programming Language".

The C compiler package is available now from manufacturers and distributors of OS-9 based computers or directly from Microvare.

# 

### 

This is a review of a new (yet another) text processor. It is dedicated to the Epson printer or any command compatible facsimile. The name of the new formatter is JUST and it is available in the Flex operating system. It was written by Ronald W. Anderson, the talented author of Flex Users' Notes, a monthly column in this journal. The term, JUST, refers to "justify", the placement of the textline so that it is aligned with the other lines on the left of right margins or when needed, the center of the line.

JUST has most of the standard commands. They are invoked as follows:

,W:nn	Set width of line to nn characters
,M:nn	Set left margin nn spaces
,P	Starts a new paragraph
,S:nn	Skip nn lines
,J	Turns on justify mode
,Q	Turns off justify mode

There are, of course, many others. There are some commands that are unique and these form the most interesting facet of the new program. These are:

,E	Sets emphasized print mode on the Epson printer
,D	Sets double strike mode
,B	Sets both, for boldface characters
,N	Cancels the other Epson commands

On Epson printers equipped with a graphics ROM, (Graftrex), there are provisions for inserting commands in the middle of text for cause special printing for less than an entire line. These include:

\0	Turn on italics
\1	Turn off italics
\2	Boldface (double strike) on
\3	Boldface (double strike) off

These commands are embedded within the text. For example, \0everything from here to here\1 will be italicized. This example will \2be printed in boldface\3.

These commands can also be \0\2be printed in boldface italics\1\3.

The package includes the program source in a new compiler called PL9. There is also a short segment of

assembled code containing the code for the Epson commands. The instruction manual is present as a textfile with processor commands. JUST can be tried out by inserting the disk and typing:

```
1.JUST.CMD 1.JUSTINST.TXT T
```

This will cause the instructional manual to be directed to the terminal. "p" can be used to send the processed file to the printer. Instead of "p" or "T" a file name can be used and the file will be saved in a processed form on the disk. When text is directed to a diskfile the printer commands are included. These, however, cannot be sent to the printer by the FLEX LIST.CMD routine which does not transmit characters with ASCII values below \$20. Epson commands utilize ESCAPE (\$1B). To get around this problem, a short utility file is included in the package.

This program, FPRINT.CMD, will send all characters to the printer and allow the text file to properly configure it. This works fine except for \$09 which is interpreted as Horizontal Tab by FLEX.

Thus far, I have described an interesting exercise in the study of text formatters. What is unique about JUST is that it is written in PL9 and the source is included. For we novices in PL9 (and structured programming in general), JUST is a superb entry into the use of PL9 to devise large programs of practical use. The source for JUST can be easily modified with any text editor and recompiled quickly for the purpose of studying PL9 or of making modifications and/or improvements in the program.

Perhaps it will serve as a vehicle to allow full utilization of the Epson printer with Graftrex option. There are already software packages in CP/M offering large numbers of character fonts for use on the Epson. The current version of JUST hopefully is just the beginning of many refinements and additions. I enjoy using JUST and look forward to experimenting with the source.

Theodore A. Peintuch, M.D.

WESTCHESTER Applied Business Systems  
Post Office Box 107, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510

PRODUCT NEWS  
October, 1983

### 

XDMS V1.1 is the first major revision to the XDMS Data Management System. This version incorporates several enhancements designed to add processing flexibility within the GENERATE process control statements. For example, it is now possible to do rate table lookups (eg: tax, FICA, etc) on ranges of values and incorporate the found values in subsequent calculations. Immediate commands have been added to permit in-process file deletes or purge, terminal messages and prompts, and optional escape from the process. GENERATE error handling is now non-fatal, allowing interactive users to correct or reenter instructions without reloading the program. XDMS V1.1 replaces V1.0 effective October 1, and is available for \$179.95. Upgrades for registered XDMS V1.0 users is \$29.00.

### 

XDMS+ adds to V1.1 a set of useful utilities. SET permits display or change of the XDMS margin, width, page, electa, backspace, end-of-line, delete, return echo, escape, reprint, null count, pause, backup, work drive and data values. PLOT produces horizontal bar, symbol or time charts. COPYDEF defines new files with existing formats. REVISE permits modification of file field definitions. OUTPUT dumps a .DMS file in tabular ASCII format. INPUT loads a .DMS file from dump output or user generated text. FORM displays the print form of a .DMS file. SIZE lists the number of file records and sectors. PURGE erases the data portion of a .DMS file. FILES displays a file name matrix for a given file extent. REDEFINE allows change of a field name. The utilities are available separately to new XDMS V1.1 users for \$9.95 - However, since we value our existing customer base, we are extending a \$30.00 one time special to XDMS V1.0 users to purchase both XDMS V1.1 AND the utilities. This offer will expire December 1, 1983.

### 

The XACC General Accounting System has also been redesigned under V1.1. The system now permits optional random access for the ACCOUNTS and PRODUCTS files, a user defined ORDER file, custom invoicing (similar to GENERATE's form capacity) and a percentage split of a transaction amount over two accounts. The aggregation process in BALANCE, CLOSE, LSORDER and INCOME has been redesigned and is about five times faster. The product code field may now be alphanumeric if desired. XACC V1.1



(and XDMS V1.1) are designed to run with "narrow" screens of 30-64 characters if necessary (eg: the Color Computer). We have submitted a "V64" CoCo screen to South East Media for inclusion in the F-MATE pkg. This uses a 3-Pixel-1-Space character format and we will supply the module free with any order - If you assure us that you have purchased the F-MATE package. The new IACC V1.1 system sells for \$249.95 - However, if you guessed it! We will extend existing IACC V1.0 users the opportunity to upgrade for \$23.00 (XDMS V1.1 is also required @ \$23.00 or the optional XDMS+ V1.1 @ \$30.10).

### MANUALS

The manuals for XDMS and IACC have been reprinted. A new cover design with color stripes and bold lettering on a white background presents a professional appearance. Additional sections have been added for the utilities, and for additional operational detail. New manuals will be shipped with upgrades.

### UPGRADES

Recently, South East Media became our primary dealer. As such we pay a sales commission for orders placed there. Since we are zoned as "residential" we cannot process credit card orders directly (don't ask) and must "factor" these orders thru our dealer (and pay a commission). On upgrades, we prefer check orders placed here - They can be processed quickly and alleviate confusion as to who is a valid user. We urge new users of ANY system to place initial orders with South East Media on 800-338-6800 (toll free USA). Once a subscriber, we prefer to deal on a "direct" basis which permits us to furnish you with the latest news and modifications on a timely basis. We are continuing to negotiate with our local Banks for credit card processing "privileges". Please draw foreign checks on US banks and funds - Otherwise we are charged a \$13.00 fee by our bank to cash the check!

### COSTS ARE UP

Right now, it looks like we might have to raise our prices in January. Commissions, royalty, advertising, printing, etc. all contribute to our costs, and our profit margin is narrowing rapidly. XDMS sales are up, but not enough to compensate. We are also considering a three package approach, by adding an entry level XDMS (aimed reports only). This would be "level I" and would sell for \$100-120, standard XDMS would be "level II" and sell for \$180-200, and XDMS+ would be "level III" and sell for \$250-300. Existing users would upgrade between levels at a discount (difference + a percent) and between versions for \$25.00.

### OS-9?

We are anxiously awaiting arrival of Radio Shack's OS-9, which seems to be held up in Tandy's quality control group. Rumor has it that there is a bug in the timing between disk operations and a second terminal. (Does anyone really connect a second terminal to a \$400. computer?) Having studied Microware's OS-9 manual, we think that a XDMS version is feasible (but not easy). As soon as OS-9 is released, we intend to begin conversion of XDMS code. This effort should take about 3 months. The FLEX version will continue to be offered as long as a demand exists.

### APPLICATIONS

We are still looking for generic XDMS applications for an applications manual. Seems like most users are using the system for very specific uses. Here, we have used it for private line network analysis and for cataloging data communications equipment - Not too applicable for a general applications manual. Any suggestions are welcome - Write Bill Adams, P.O. Box 187, Briarcliff, N.Y. 10510.

6 October 1983

Larry E. Williams, Editor  
'68' MICRO JOURNAL  
P.O. Box 849  
Hixson, TN 37343

Dear Larry,

I guess that I am in the soup now that you published my letter to South East Media. No harm done to me, but some folks may take offense to my running a Z80 and CP/M on the 50-buss. As the old saying goes, "Since I'm already in the soup, I may as well stir."

### META LAB Z809

Yes, I am running CP/M software on my Gimix 6809+. I'm doing it with a Meta Lab Z809 CPU board which I have had for longer than a year. Operationally, that Meta Lab Z809 is a fine complement to the Gimix. Even though it is one of the original Z809's, I have not had any problems with it at all. My Gimix is operating at 2 MHz, which puts the Z80 at 4 MHz, and I have never even seen so much as a dropped or garbled byte.

The way Meta Lab designed the Z809, it and the Gimix 6809+ CPU work together as dual processors with each one spe-

cializing in part of the work. The 6809 has control of the hardware and the Z80 services the application software. It's better than a marriage, neither gets in the other's way. That is, so long as I remember that the Z809 does not directly access the hardware. It hands-off all hardware instructions to the 6809. In turn, the 6809 passes all hardware specific information back to the Z809 for use in the CP/M applications programs. The data transfers are made in specially designated buffers.

### BOOTING CP/M

Booting CP/M is as simple as slipping my FLEX system disk out of drive 0, sliding my CP/M system disk into drive 0, then doing a normal cold boot. CP/M comes up fast! It calls drive 0, drive A, and drive 1 is called drive B. The CP/M prompt includes the system drive letter, "A ". The Meta Lab implementation of CP/M requires that the system disks and the work disks be kept separate. They can not be interchanged between drives because the system disks have three reserved tracks and the work disks have two reserved tracks.

### META LAB CP/M

The software key to this highly successful dual processor scheme is the BIOS module of CP/M. The BIOS module in CP/M does all the I/O handling, including disk I/O. Meta Lab's BIOS is written 90% in 6809 code and 10% in Z80 code. Unfortunately, Meta Lab has not been able to support their BIOS very well, so to date, it has not been particularly flexible. It was written for standard 8" single side, single density disk format and a parallel interface printer. Last winter, they did provide some patch addresses which helped me make some critical changes. But because of my experience with Gimix-FLEX and my two Datatrak-8 drives, I have been spoiled with nearly 2 meg of disk storage. Furthermore, I can now see an application coming at me which will require hard disk.

I have spent more than 100 hours laboriously disassembling and interpreting Meta Lab's BIOS. The job is now about 80% complete. Without that premier disassembler, DYNAMITE+, this task would have driven me out of my mind. I now know that eventually I'll be able to take Meta Lab's BIOS all the way to a hard disk format. If I can get permission from Meta Lab, I'll be willing to share the heavily commented, though not reassemblable, results of my effort with your readers by publishing it in '68' MICRO JOURNAL.

### CP/M vs. FLEX

Now the big issue, CP/M vs. FLEX! Will I contribute anything useful to the debate? Yes and no. If you're looking for loyal unqualified support for FLEX, I'm going to disappoint you. On the other hand, I don't rate CP/M as better. Confusing? Well I prefer to stick close to facts, especially in debates. Running both systems on the same computer

has given me an excellent opportunity to make some observations.

CP/M and FLEX are not directly comparable. CP/M is a primitive operating system with hardly any capability of its own. While FLEX is a sophisticated operating system with a full-house of features; it seems to have a life of its own. CP/M's sole purpose seems to be to support applications programs. However, quite a body of utility programs have been written for it.

With regard to system-level utilities, I have far greater respect for the ones I find associated with FLEX and the 6809. I attribute this strongly to the knowledge and skill of the people writing system software for the 6809. I will even go so far as to make the statement that there are better quality system-level programs being given away in this magazine than are available for purchase for the Z80 and CP/M. There is, however, a complete rewrite of CP/M in the public domain, called ZCPR2 (by Rich Conn). It has good reviews. I have a copy of it, but have not installed it, yet.

However superior I think 6809 system software may be, I think the opposite about applications software. I did not spend my money to buy a Z809 board because I was curious. I was forced to do so because of lack of high quality, heavy duty applications software running on FLEX. That was in the Spring of 1982. In 1983, I have been encouraged by the increase of application software advertising in '68' MICRO JOURNAL.

#### PERFORMANCE

The Meta Lab Z809 and implementation of CP/M does not seem to impair processing speed noticeably. For example it seems from Wilbur Killebrew's letter in the October issue that the 50-buss still lacks a useable FORTRAN. I also have been victimized by the FORTRAN fiasco on the 50-buss to the extent of several hundred dollars, but at an earlier time and with a different vendor. Now, Meta Lab's Z809 has enabled me to run Microsoft FORTRAN on the 50-buss. I benchmarked the now infamous Gilbreath's version of "Eratosthenes' Sieve" at 15 seconds. This is 17 times faster than Wilbur Killebrew got out of TSC's FORTRAN, and 33% faster than I clocked the same program on a PDP-11/70 (RSX-11M+ operating system, F77 compiler, no other users on the system).

#### VENDOR

The Z809 was last advertised in '68' MICRO JOURNAL in the August 1983 issue, page 59. It was priced at \$595, and can be ordered from:

Meta Lab  
6825 County Line Road  
Longmont, CO. 80501  
tel: (303)449-1711

*Phil*

Philip C. Nunn  
201 Netherfield  
Comstock Park, MI. 49321

# RELINK

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THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM (WRITTEN IN FLEX09 ASSEMBLER) RELINKS ALL THE AVAILABLE SECTORS ON A FLEX09 FORMATTED DISK INTO ASCENDING ORDER. THIS MINIMIZES THE CHECKER BOARDING EFFECT WHICH SLOWS DOWN FILE ACCESSING TIME. THE PROGRAM BUILDS AN AVAILABLE SECTOR BIT MAP IN MEMORY WHICH IT THEN USES TO REWRITE ALL AVAILABLE SECTORS AND SECTOR LINKAGE. THE BIT MAP REQUIRES 8K OF MEMORY WHICH WILL ALLOW THE PROGRAM TO RELINK A DISK CONTAINING UP TO 65536 FREE SECTORS. THE TOTAL MEMORY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM IS APPROXIMATELY 9K, MOST OF WHICH IS USED FOR THE SECTOR BIT MAP. THIS PROGRAM IS NOT RELOCATABLE IN ITS PRESENT FORM. ALTHOUGH THE PROGRAM IS INTENDED TO WORK PROPERLY ON ALL TYPES OF DISK DRIVES, IT HAS ONLY BEEN TESTED ON SINGLE SIDED, SINGLE DENSITY, 35,40 AND 80 TRACK DRIVES. IF YOUR DRIVE IS NOT ONE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED I WOULD SUGGEST USING THIS PROGRAM WITH CAUTION FOR THE FIRST TIME UNTILL YOU ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE PROGRAM WORKS PROPERLY. I HOPE THIS PROGRAM SAVES YOU AS MUCH TIME AS IT HAS ME IN THE PAST.

SYNTAX "RELINK <DRIVE NO>"

```

*****
*
*      "RELINK"
*
*      RELINK AVAILABLE DISK SECTORS
*
*      JOE CONDON
*      09/27/83
*
*****
*
*      FLEX EQUATES
*
*****

```

0001	VERNO	EDU	1	VERSION NUMBER
0004	EDT	EDU	004	ASCII EDT CHARACTER
0040	FCD	EDU	0040	SYSTEM FILE CONTROL BLOCK
0003	WDRS	EDU	0003	FILE RE-ENTRY POINT
001E	PSTRNG	EDU	001E	PRINT ASCII CMD STRING
0024	PCRLF	EDU	0024	PRINT CARR RETURN LINE FEED
003F	RPTERR	EDU	003F	REPORT DISK ERROR
0042	GETHEX	EDU	0042	INPUT HEX VALUE
0006	FMS	EDU	0006	FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

```

*****
*
*      START OF PROGRAM
*
*****

```

0000		DRB	0000	PROGRAM ORIGIN
0000 20	01	START	DRB	RELINK BRANCH AROUND VERSION NO
0002 01		FCD	VERNO	VERSION NUMBER

[illegible]

Used SWTPC hardware: 8212-W Terminal \$895; MP-8M 8k boards \$100ea.; MP-M 4k boards \$50ea.; MP-A CPU board \$25; AC-30 Cassette I-O \$25. Unused F&D CPU-2 and AD209-1 6809 adapter all parts except rom \$150. Jonathan Meler 802-254-2285, Box 573, Brattleboro VT 05301.

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\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*  
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The following COMPILERS are reviewed initially, more will be reviewed, compared and benchmarked as they become available to the author:

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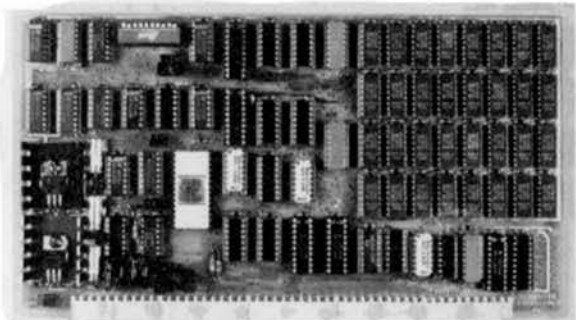
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FLEX users can read, write and use the special disk as any other FLEX disk, provided the FLEX directory is not allowed to continue beyond track zero (too many files).

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## COPYMULT.CMD — Copy LARGE Disks to several smaller disks —

The following FLEX utilities allow the backup of ANY size disk to any SMALLER size diskettes (Winchester to 8's or 5's, 8" to 5's, etc.). By simply inserting diskettes as requested by COPYMULT, a large disk system may be downloaded to your present floppy disk system, any size. No need to fiddle with directory deletions or any of the other tedious operations that must be done using the normal copy routines.

COPYMULT.CMD understands normal "copy" syntax and always keeps up with files already copied by maintaining directories for both host and receiving disk system, eliminating hours of tedious keyboard entries and other time consuming cleanup chores.

**BACKUP.CMD** is a special program that downloads "random" type files, any size.

**RESTORE.CMD** a special program to restructure copied "random" files for copying, or recopying back to the host system.

**FREELINK.CMD** a "bonus" utility that "relinks" the free chain of floppy or hard disk thereby eliminating fragmentation.

**Completely documented source files included. ALL 4 Programs \$99.50 (8" or 5")**

## CHES 6809

Requires FLEX and DISPLAYS On Any Type Terminal

Features:

- \*Two display boards. \*Change skill level. \*Swap side. \*Point scoring system.
- \*Four levels of play. \*Solve Checkmate problems in 1-2-3-4 moves.
- \*Make move and swap sides. \*Play white or black.

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DIET-TRAC Forecaster is an KBASIC program that plans a diet in terms of either calories and percentage of carbohydrates, proteins and fats (C P G%) or grams of Carbohydrate. Protein and Fat food exchanges of each of the six basic food groups (vegetable, bread, meat, skim milk, fruit and fat) for a specific individual.

Sex, Age, Height, Present Weight, Frame Size, Activity Level and Basal Metabolic Rate for normal individual are taken into account. Ideal weight and sustaining calories for any weight of the above individual are calculated. When a weight goal is given (either gain or loss), and a calorie plan is agreed upon between the computer and the individual, the number of days to reach the weight goal is projected. The starting and ending rate of weight loss is calculated, and a daily calendar with each day's weight for a 30-day period is printed.

**FLEX - \$59.95      UniFLEX - \$89.95**

## XDATA — A COMMUNICATION Package for the UniFLEX Operating System —

Allows UniFLEX Based Systems to Transmit and Receive files to and from other Computer Systems via Modem. Use with CP/M, Main Frames, other UniFLEX Systems, etc.

- Verifies Transmission integrity using checksum or CRC
- Automatically Re-Transmits bad blocks
- Transmits data in 128 byte blocks

**UniFLEX \$299.99**

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# Software

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### AT LAST!! A FULL BLOWN DISASSEMBLER FOR THE COLOR COMPUTER

Computer Systems Consultants **SUPER SLEUTH** is a "Time Tested", reliable, **PROVEN** Disassembler that has gained acceptance through out the FLEX Community as an extremely **POWERFUL**, **INTERACTIVE**, Software Tool. Now, this powerful Disassembler has been converted to run on a **Standard 32K Color Computer** or **TDP-100 System** with a **Disk System**. The **CoCo SLEUTH** Software Package consists of 3 Programs; **SLEUTH** (the Disassembler), **CHGNAM** (used to globally Change Labels to a meaningful Name), and **XREF** (a Cross Reference Generator for Source Code Files). **CoCo SLEUTH** will Disassemble Disk Files of 6800, 6801, 6802, 6803 (the "Baby CoCo"), 6805, 6808, 6809, and 6502 (Apple, Atari, Commodore, etc.) Object Code if you can get it on a Color Computer Disk. (See Aug. '83 '68' Micro Journal "Color Users Notes" Column for a full Review.)

**Color Computer Disk - Object Code Only** \$49.00

### FORTH Programming Language

**Stearns Electronics FORTH** -- Intrigued by **Forth**? Here is a **Forth** package tailored to the **Color Computer**. This package is supplied on Tape, with instructions for transferring it to disk if you wish. Written primarily in machine language, it's **speed is unparalleled**. A full **Semigraphic-8 Editor** is provided, along with "goodies" like **Graphics** and **Sound Commands**, **Printer Commands**, **Auto-Repeat** and **Control Keys**, etc. If you are interested in **Learning Forth**, a **Trace Feature** is provided which is invaluable. If you are a **FORTH Pro**, this package provides **CPU carry Flag accessibility**, **Fast Task Multiplexing**, **Clean Interrupt Handling**, etc. (Or; you won't "out grow" the **Basic** capabilities of this Implementation). Combine this package with **Leo Brodie's EXCELLENT Book "Starting FORTH"**, and you will be a **FORTH Expert** before you know it (and have a lot of fun doing it!).

**Color Computer TAPE** (w/ instructions for transferring to Disk) \$58.95

### Color Computer GRAPHIC SCREEN PRINT Programs

Dumps any "PMODE" Screen to the Printer with the **BASIC USR Function**. Shift the Printout Left or Right or **Reverse Print** (Dark for Light Screen and Vice Versa). All Programs on Tape.

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A Menu Driven **EXTENDED BASIC** Program which allows the entry of up to 12 Memos per Day, each of which may contain up to 28 Characters, for any day of the Month between the years 1700 and 2099. A **Graphic Calendar** shows which days contain Memos, and a "Key Word" Search is provided which can be output to the Screen or Printer.

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**DISK DATE-P-BASE CALENDAR** (4,000 Memos at 300/Month per Disk) 19.95

### Interested in INTEREST (the Money Kind)?

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**DISK DATA HANDLER 64K** - **EXTENDED BASIC** w/ Mach. Lang. Routines. Allows a max of 246 Chars. and 14 Fields per Record, and another Record can be linked to the first; 8 Char. Field Names, up to 99 Chars. per Field. Powerful On-Screen editor for input and update, flexible Output capabilities including output to Disk Files for use by other Programs. Change File Definition without re-entering the Data, Split Files, etc. Allows Multiple Field Sorts, Select on any combination of Fields, etc. An extremely **POWERFUL TOOL**; instructions provide examples of Mailing Lists and a Financial Stock Profit and Loss Tracking System.

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# Software

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DYNASHARE is the painless method! Use your existing Flex computer by simply adding 64K of RAM for each user. Fact is, you still use FLEX just like you always have! DYNASHARE is not intended as competition to UniFLEX. It does not improve on the speed of FLEX, and does not offer password protection or other niceties of a full-blown multi-user system. What DYNASHARE does do is give FLEX users a low-cost way to use existing software in a multi-user, multi-tasking environment, so your existing FLEX versions of BASIC, X BASIC, editors, assemblers, disassemblers, sort/merge packages, word processors, compilers, DYNACALC spread-sheet package, and so on are still good.

**NOTE --** The initial release of DYNASHARE is for SMTFC S/O9 Computers, but versions will also be available for other popular extended-memory (up to 1624K) systems, such as HELIX and GIMIX. A minimum of 128K of RAM will be required with ALL versions. DYNASHARE requires 64K of RAM for each active task; thus a 256k system could allow foreground-background operation on two terminals, or foreground-only operation on four terminals.

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For the past several months, we at the Southeast Media Division of Computer Publishing, Inc. (CPI), the parent company of '68' MICRO JOURNAL and COLOR MICRO JOURNAL, have debated expanding our software distribution business. Many other magazines have been doing so for years (in fact, MOST were in the Software Distribution Business BEFORE they began to publish a Magazine). Presently there are many fine examples of software that has been developed by YOU, our readers, that will never see the "light of day" due to the cost of Advertising and TIME and cost involved in the production, distribution, and Customer SUPPORT of that software unless SOMEONE, with enough exposure and the willingness to continually advertise, runs with the ball.

Software is the "backbone" for the REAL utilization of any Computer System, and ours are no exception! This has been no simple decision. While we realize that there could be some conflict with some of our advertisers, we ALSO hear a LOUD and CONTINUOUS cry for HELP from our Readers. From day one, the foremost concern of '68' MICRO JOURNAL has been it's READERS! Therefore, our Southeast Media Division will accept, for appraisal for possible Distribution, 6809 software; Games, Utilities, Software Development, Business Application Programs, etc.

In the past there has been too much software offered that was not quite ready. We will strive to eliminate that element. But, right up front, we tell you only that we will do our very best; nothing more. Also, we will strive to keep cost to a bare minimum, while securing for the author a fair return in royalty payments, promptly paid, and in customer support for his product.

Of course, we will expect, no -- DEMAND, that the author keep the product free of errors (bugs), and maintain it in a prompt and business like manner. Also we shall require that authors be willing to furnish 'source' for those programs that justify, by price and utility, inclusion of same. The lack of source code, properly commented, is a continual complaint we hear. Not all programs will be sold with source, but where necessary, we will insist that it be included.

In some instances the program may be small or short and not justify itself as a "single" sale product. In this event it will be combined with other like programs, and offered as a package. In that event, the royalties will be split between the various authors.

If you have software that you feel will qualify under this program, please contact one of the people below. Remember, if your software has any problems or "funnies" -- GET IT STRAIGHT BEFORE YOU CONTACT US!! Also get your source code in proper shape and well commented; there is too much 99% code already drifting around.

If your software is READY contact: Bob Bay, Don Williams, or Tom Williams

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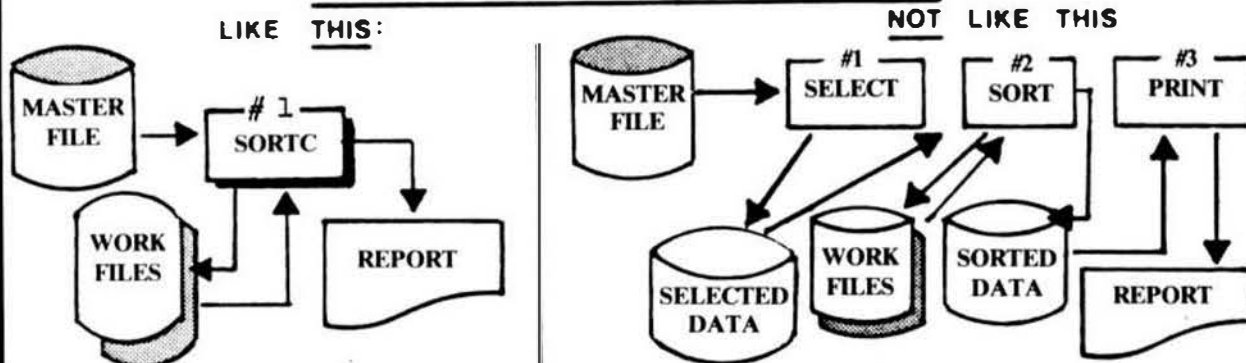
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# SORTC\*\* for OS9\*

## THE ONE AND ONLY



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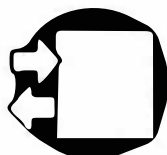
SORTC is a high speed, full-record compounding disk sort, which gives microcomputer users mainframe capabilities. It has been specifically designed to sort data efficiently while offering the user great flexibility in designing sort programs. It is written in BASIC09\* for use under OS9.

### COMPOUNDING FUNCTION

SORTC has the capability of summing user-specified numeric fields on equality of keys. This allows significant savings in memory, disk space, and program development time. A reduction in the number of disk accesses required when compared to other sorts is inherent in the design of SORTC.

### DISK BASED

Specifically designed to sort large volumes of data, SORTC imposes no size restrictions on the amount of data to be sorted. It also places no limits on the number of sort keys which can be used or the order in which the keys are sorted. Furthermore, the sort procedure can be performed as many times as necessary within the same program. This feature allows the programmer to take advantage of any existing data bias, and possibly even reduce the size of the sort key.



**JBM'S MIDWARE**

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\*\*Uses the same algorithm as JBM's SORTC for Digital Equipment Corp. RSTS Systems.

### ADVANCED DESIGN

While most disk sorts are partially based upon the Fibonacci series, SORTC is not. SORTC is a generation ahead of the normal sorts based upon the "Fib series". Its unique algorithm is automatically optimized at run time for a reduction in workspace, reduced # of disk accesses and shorter run times. Designed to be as "crash proof" as possible, the sort procedure will not abort if it is accidentally asked to sort zero items.

### EASY TO USE

It is not difficult to design a program which will use JBM's SORTC. Since SORTC is a subroutine, the user may write any procedure he or she wants to format the data for sorting and then to process the sorted data. The sorted data need not be written back to disk, but instead is immediately available. The sort code is automatically inserted into the source procedure by a simple Sort Generator.

### ORDERING INFORMATION

SORTC, from JBM's MIDWARE line of quality software, is available on either five and one-quarter or eight inch diskettes for a price of \$150.00. All of JBM's software packages come complete with comprehensive user's manuals.

For more information, or to place an order, contact:

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# \*\*\*\*\* THE BEST NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

DECEMBER

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1983

## ISAIAH 9 -

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

## LUKE 2 -

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

## ISAIAH 53 -

1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?

2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgement: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our customers, associates and friends for their support over the past years, and to pray a special blessing for each and every one of you in the years to come.

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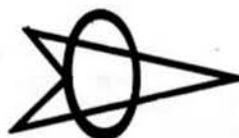
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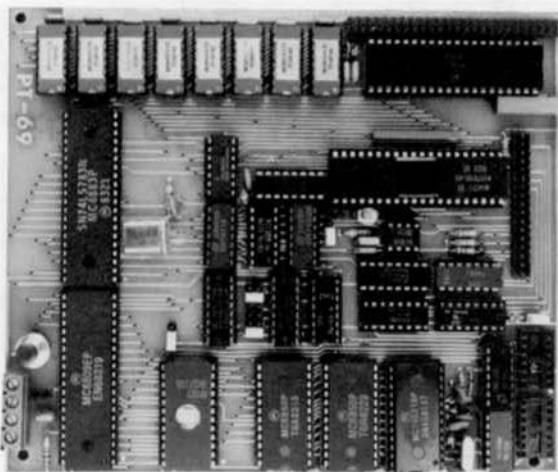


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# TEN MOST-ASKED QUESTIONS about **DYNACALC™**

## THE ELECTRONIC SPREAD-SHEET FOR 6809 COMPUTERS

---

**1. What is an electronic spread-sheet, anyway?**

Business people use spread-sheets to organize columns and rows of figures. DYNACALC simulates the operation of a spread-sheet without the mess of paper and pencil. Of course, corrections and changes are a snap. Changing any entered value causes the whole spread-sheet to be re-calculated based on the new constants. This means that you can play, 'what if?' to your heart's content.

**2. Is DYNACALC just for accountants, then?**

Not at all. DYNACALC can be used for just about any type of job. Not only numbers, but alphanumeric messages can be handled. Engineers and other technical users will love DYNACALC's sixteen-digit math and built-in scientific functions. You can build worksheets as large as 256 columns or 256 rows. There's even a built-in sort command, so you can use DYNACALC to manage small data bases — up to 256 records.

**3. What will DYNACALC do for ME?**

That's a good question. Basically the answer is that DYNACALC will let your computer do just about anything you can imagine. Ask your friends who have VisiCalc™, or a similar program, just how useful an electronic spread-sheet program can be for all types of household, business, engineering, and scientific applications. Typical uses include financial planning and budgeting, sales records, bills of material, depreciation schedules, student grade records, job costing, income tax preparation, checkbook balancing, parts inventories, and payroll. But there is no limit to what YOU can do with DYNACALC.

**4. Do I have to learn computer programming?**

NO! DYNACALC is designed to be used by non-programmers, but even a Ph.D. in Computer Science can understand it. Even experienced programmers can get jobs done many times faster with DYNACALC, compared to conventional programming. Built-in HELP messages are provided for quick reference to operating instructions.

**5. Do I have to modify my system to use DYNACALC?**

Nope. DYNACALC uses any standard 6809 configuration, so you don't have to spend money on another CPU board or waste time learning another operating system.

**6. Will DYNACALC read my existing data files?**

You bet! DYNACALC has a beautifully simple method of reading and writing data files, so you can communicate both ways with other programs on your system, such as the Text Editor, Text Processor, Sort/Merge, STYLOGRAPH™ word processor, RMS™ data base system, or other programs written in BASIC, C, PASCAL, FORTRAN, and so on.

**7. How fast is DYNACALC?**

Very. Except for a few seldom-used commands, DYNACALC is memory-resident, so there is little disk I/O to slow things down. The whole data array (worksheet) is in memory, so access to any point is instantaneous. DYNACALC is 100% 6809 machine code for blistering speed.

**8. Is there a version of DYNACALC for MY system?**

Probably. You need a 6809 computer (32k minimum) with FLEX™, UNIFLEX™, or OS-9™ operating system. You also need a decent crt terminal, one with at least 80 characters per line, and direct cursor addressing. If your terminal isn't smart enough for DYNACALC, you probably need a new one anyway. The UNIFLEX and OS-9 versions of DYNACALC allow you to mix different brands of terminal on the same system. There's also a special version of DYNACALC for Color Computers equipped with FLEX (Frank Hogg or Data-Comp versions).

**9. How much does DYNACALC cost?**

The FLEX versions are just \$200 per copy; UNIFLEX version \$395; OS-9 version (works with LEVEL ONE or LEVEL TWO) \$250. Orders outside North America add \$7 per copy for postage. We encourage dealers to handle DYNACALC, since it's a product that sells instantly upon demonstration. Call or write on your company letterhead for more information.

**10. Where do I order DYNACALC?**

See your local DYNACALC dealer, or order directly from CSC at the address below. We accept telephone orders from 10 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday. Call us at 314-576-5020. Your VISA or MasterCard is welcome. Please specify diskette size for FLEX or OS-9 versions. Software serial number is required for the UNIFLEX version.

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2508	•			•	•	•	•
2708*			•				•
2758	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2516	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2716	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2716*	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2532	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2732	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2732A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2584	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2764	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2528	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
27128	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2816			•			•	
68764						•	
8748						•	
8749						•	
TOTAL	11	3	12	6	11	11	11
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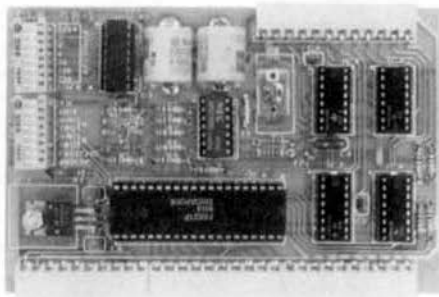
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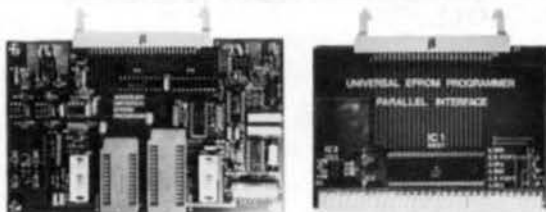
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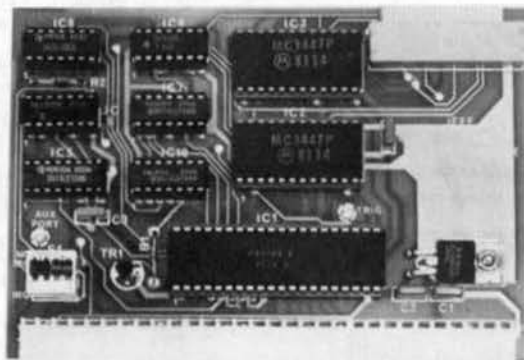
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- Single SS-30 board (4, 8, or 16 addresses per port), fully socketed, gold plated bus connectors, and IEEE interface cable assembly.

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- Friendly inter-active environment where you have INSTANT access to the Editor, the Compiler, and the Trace-Debugger, which, amongst other things, can single step the program a SOURCE line at a time. You also have direct access to any FLEX utility and your System Monitor.
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  - Fully compatible with TSC text editor format disk files.
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  - Control statements: IF...THEN...ELSE, IF...CASE1...CASE2...ELSE, BEGIN...END, WHILE..., REPEAT...UNTIL, REPEAT...FOREVER, CALL, JUMP, RETURN, BREAK, GOTO.
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- MACE can also produce ASSEMBLY for PL/9 with the assembly language source passed to the output file as comments.
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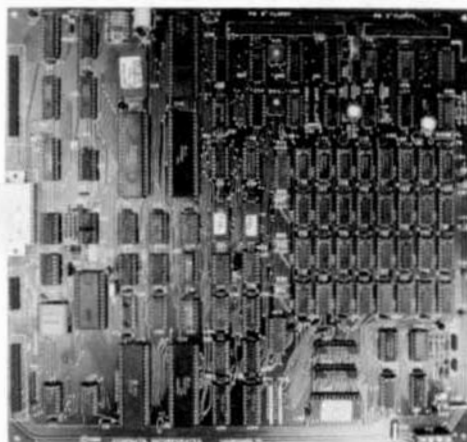
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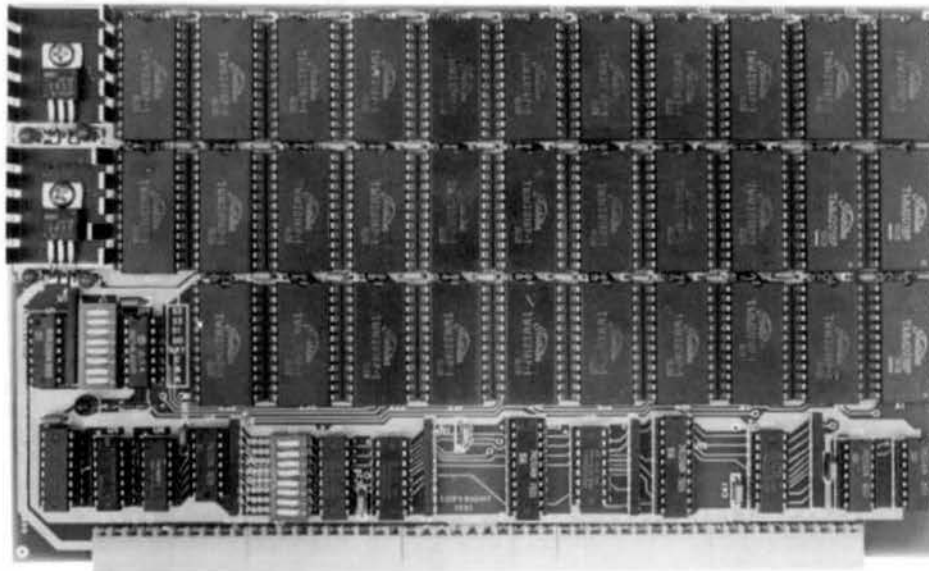
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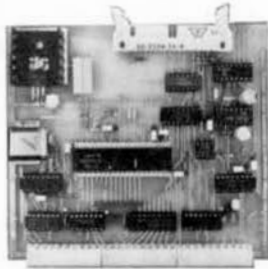
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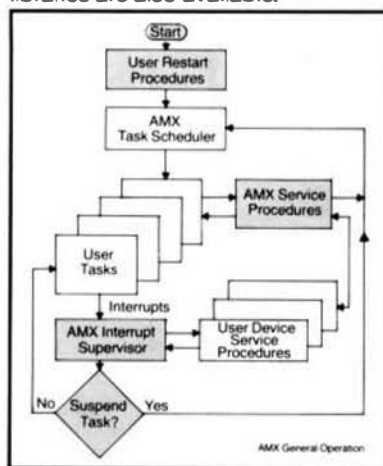
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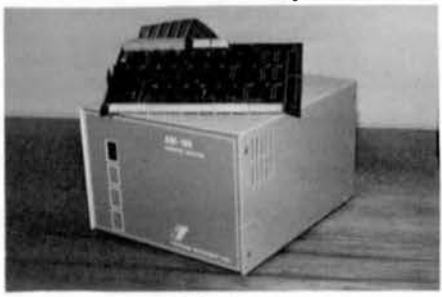
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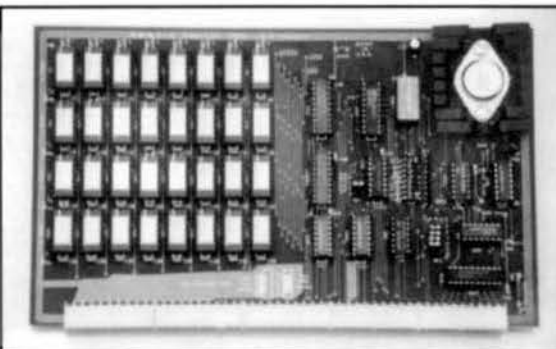
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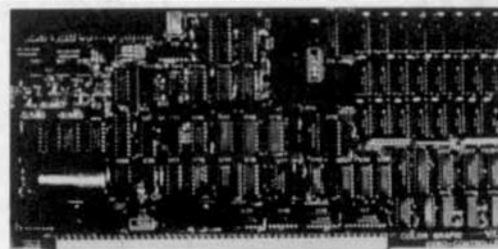
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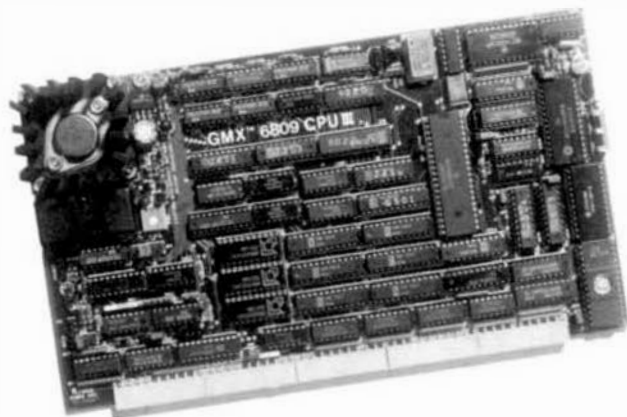
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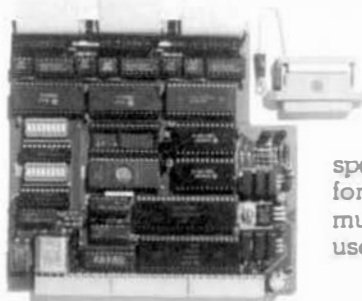
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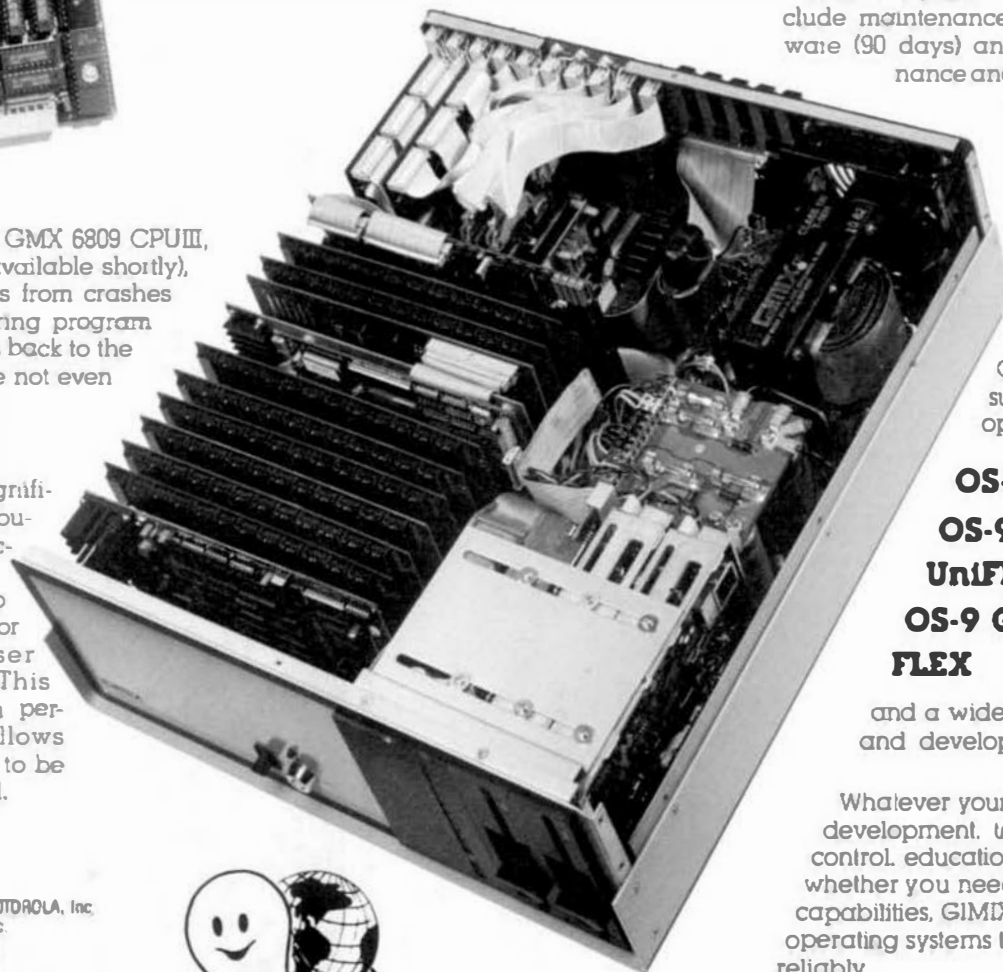
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F-4000(88) FLEX Conversion Rout. for the RS Disk Controller when purchased with Special General FLEX Sys.	\$ 49.95
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## SPECIAL SYSTEM PACKAGES

64K Radio Shack COLOR COMPUTER, Radio Shack COLOR DISK CONTROLLER, a Disk Drive System, Special General Version of FLEX, F-4000(88), and a Box of 10 Double Density Diskettes, a COMPLETE ready to run SYSTEM on your Color TV Set.

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1 Tandon 40 Track SSD with Cabinet and Power Supply	\$259.95
Single Drive Cabinet with Power Supply	\$ 79.95
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## DISK DRIVE PACKAGES, etc.

These Packages include the Radio Shack Disk Controller, Disk Drives with Power Supply and Cabinet, and Disk Drive Cable:

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Plastic Library Box		\$5.00ea

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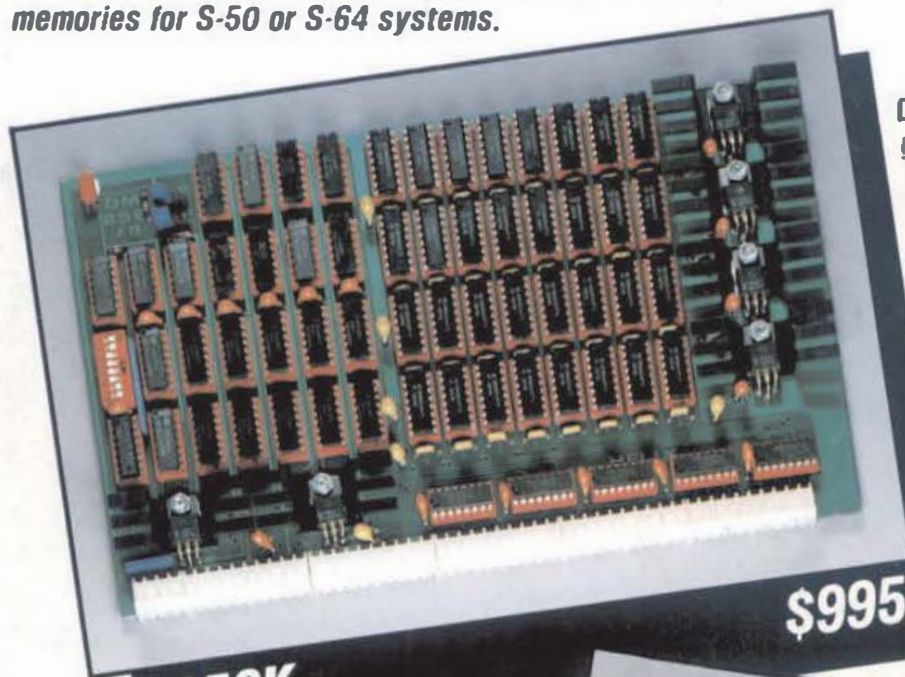
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